

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE]

## THE STATE OF EUROPE.

THE Emperor of the French has denied, through the non-official columns of the *Moniteur*, that he has recently made any extraordinary armaments or levies of soldiers and sailors. But all the world knows the value of official or non-official statements in the *Moniteur*; and the Government and people of England, unless they be stupid as ostriches, will look at the facts of Europe and judge for themselves. Whether the armaments of our neighbours be ordinary or extraordinary, our duty is the same;—to be prepared for all emergencies; to hold our own; and to justify to foes, as well as to friends, the position we have long held, and cannot lose without disgrace and ruin;—that of the first maritime Power in the world.

If the Emperor of the French had not a great army—if he did not do all in his power to strengthen himself on his precarious throne—if he did not increase his means of offence and defence not only against Europe but against his own people—he would not act with the sagacity and determination which his opponents as well as his admirers admit him to possess; but he would court his own downfall. Without a large army to support the system of re-

pression which he has established, France—or, at all events, that portion of it which is educated, refined, and polished, which loves liberty, and which in times of civil commotion leads all the rest—would not endure for a week the utter deprivation of the right of discussion, and the concentration into the hands of one self-willed and inflexible despot of the whole patronage and authority of the State. It is natural that such an army should look to its creator for employment; that it should seek war as the field of advancement, and of so-called "glory;" and that its leaders should desire opportunities of proving their mettle, and acquiring rank and pay, as earnestly as physicians look for patients and barristers for briefs.

The Emperor of the French knows what he is about. He has studied the history of Europe, and understands it. His sympathies are not with that spirit of liberty—out of the troubles excited by which his uncle arose at the end of the last century, to dazzle and overawe the world—but he knows that spirit still exists, and still perturbs the mind of mighty populations. English statesmen of all parties who peddle with foreign politics, or ignore them, and men who love the peace of to-day better than the security of to-morrow, will neither see nor confess the great truth which is

patent and palpable to Louis Napoleon, and to every Sovereign in Europe, that the state of the Continent is rotten and unnatural. With the sole exception of this country, there is not one great empire within its boundaries in which the people have the management of their own affairs. Europe, so highly civilised—the cradle of art, science, and literature—is, with this exception, and that of the small States of Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Sardinia, Switzerland, and other still pettier powers or municipalities, which exist upon the sufferance of their rapacious neighbours—enslaved by military autocrats and tyrants. All Europe ardently desires to be free, and the more ardently in proportion to the enlightenment of the people. From the close of the American War of Independence down to the present day, liberty has been but a dream, and the attempt to secure it a massacre. For that period—long compared with one man's life, but a short time in the history of nations—there has been nothing but war and the fear of war;—nothing even in the most peaceful days of transition from one evil to another but an armed truce, or the suspension of hostilities by the physical inability of the combatants to continue their strife. From 1786 to 1815 there were bitter and bloody struggles, that settled nothing. From 1815 to 1830 there was sheer exhaustion.



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.—THE GREAT STAIRCASE, ASTON HALL.—(SEE SUPPLEMENT, PAGE 614.)



From 1830 to 1848 there was renewal of the conflict, renewal of the distrust, and renewal of the exhaustion. From 1848 to 1852 there were fresh struggles, fresh wars, and the pouring out of blood like water. From 1852 to 1859 there has been redoubled despotism, augmented armies of repression, and the marshalling of the young men of the nations by hundreds of thousands to aid in the subjugation of their own countrymen, and the general enslavement of Europe.

Despotism has the upper hand at present, and strives to keep it. And every one of the several despots that oppress this fairest portion of the globe is not only alarmed at the idea of relaxing its grip upon the neck of its own subjects, but is dissatisfied with the geographical boundaries imposed upon it by the Treaty of Vienna of 1815. France desires Belgium and the Rhine. Austria wants the Danubian Provinces, that she may have the command of the mouths of the Danube. Prussia covets large additions to her territory, and especially the Protestant Dukedoms and Principalities of Germany, together with Hamburg, Bremen, and Lubeck. Russia, defeated for awhile, and only for awhile, longs to obtain Constantinople, and an outlet to the great ocean from which she is threatened to be excluded in less than a century by the gradual drying up and shallowing of the Baltic. Italy, that never was free, but that has always hoped, prayed, and struggled for the inestimable right of self-government, desires to expel the hated Germans from Lombardy and Piedmont, to deprive the Pope of his temporal sovereignty, to dispossess King Ferdinand of his throne, and place him in history among the ex-Rois of Christendom—the Stuarts and the Bourbons—as an additional warning to the potentates of the earth that the long-suffering of the nations comes to an end sooner or later, and that retribution follows upon the heels of guilt, whether the guilty man be the wearer of a golden crown or a cotton nightcap. Look where we will in Europe, there is not a spot, except the British isles, that offers the spectacle of rational liberty or political permanence. Look where we will, the Sovereigns of Europe are armed, not against England, but against their own people, and against the rival despots that desire acquisition of territory at their expense. The boundaries of the several States are arbitrary, not natural. The nations are discontented, restless, unruly; the Sovereigns are alarmed, and not one dares to disband his troops, lest a rapacious enemy, without or within, should seize him unawares. It is in vain for the *Moniteur* to deny that France has warlike intentions. Warlike intentions and warlike preparations are a positive and all-pervading necessity, both of the Emperor and of the country.

Had Lord Palmerston been equal to the occasion when war was actually raging in Europe—had he and his advisers seized the opportunity of the hostilities in the Crimea to make a real war, and bring about a real peace—it is possible that ere this time many of the questions which still alarm and exasperate Europe might have received a satisfactory and permanent solution; and that the settlement of 1815 would have been reconsidered with a view to the future. But the opportunity was lost. Nothing was settled; not even the small question of the Danubian Principalities; and all the bitter and dangerous work has yet to be done; all the expense—and more upon its back—has to be incurred;—and the world has to be perturbed with a still greater perturbation than the last, that the common safety of Europe may be secured; and its nations left to the management of their own affairs, untroubled by the rivalries and animosities of unscrupulous tyrants.

It would, doubtless, be agreeable to many thousands of persons in England, as it would be to Mr. Bright, if the quarrels of Continental nations with their rulers, or with one another, could be fought out without the direct or indirect aid of England; and that we could leave our house open and unprotected, unbolted, unbarred, and unwatched, while strong gangs of thieves were prowling about in every direction. But, whatever individuals may do, nations have no right to rely upon the innate innocence and goodness of others, or to refuse to take precautions against insult and aggression. The Emperor of the French may mean well to England. We think he does; but he will mean just as well if England have a large and invincible fleet; and England will be all the better enabled to act as umpire in the disputes and wars that must arise in Europe before Europe can enjoy either peace or satisfaction.

Englishmen may not fear invasion, or may think that the old woman cited by Mr. Bright was right to laugh at it: but what they dislike, and will not tolerate, is unpreparedness amid perils which are beyond the control of England, and which by the merest accident may in twenty-four hours set all Europe in a blaze. The country knows what disgrace and loss our unpreparedness cost us in the Crimean struggle; and neither to please strong men like Napoleon III. and John Bright on the one side, nor sagacious old women who can look through milestones on the other, will it run the risk a second time. England owes it to herself, as well as to the great cause of liberty, of which she has been the prophet, the teacher, and the example, to be as strong as she is free, and as ready as she is enlightened.

**THE KING AND QUEEN OF GREECE** left Athens on the 5th for an excursion in their dominions. The following is their itinerary:—Thebes, Livadia, Macrocampi, Lamia, and Chalcis. After his return the King will set out for Germany.

**PRINCE DANILO**, of Montenegro, has suddenly raised the siege of Klobuck, in the Herzegovina, in which his victorious adherents seem to have engaged soon after the battle of Grahovo. His reason for so doing is not yet known.

**BRAZIL**.—The Emperor opened the second Session of the tenth Legislature of the General Legislative Assembly on the 3rd ult.

**MOROCCO**.—A telegram announces the commencement of hostilities in Morocco. The Emperor had left Mequinez, and, after advancing in a south-westerly direction, entered the Zemour territory on May 26. An engagement took place there, and the rebels, after being forced to abandon some of their tents, fell back into the interior of the country.

**ART TOYS**.—A sale of these elegant articles is held to-day at No. 4, North Crescent, Bedford-square, and will be resumed at the same place on Monday and Tuesday next. The art toys are made by young girls, who receive the profits arising from the sale of the toys. At the establishment for the making of dolls' furniture, at North Crescent, the education of the girls employed is carried on with the same regularity as their work. Any information which may be desired respecting this interesting attempt to provide at the same time work and instruction for young females will be readily answered by Mrs. Wilson, the excellent manager.

The electric cable between the citadel of Messina and the new fort of Reggio was successfully sunk on the 4th of this month.

The port of Poti, on the Black Sea, has been opened to foreign commerce.

## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## FRANCE.

The resignation of General Espinasse has been accepted, and M. Delangle, President of the Imperial Court of Paris, is appointed Minister of the Interior. General Espinasse receives a seat in the Senate.

M. de Royer, Minister of Justice, has been charged *ad interim* with the Ministry of State during the absence of M. Fould.

The nomination of Prince Napoleon to the government of Algeria is definitively abandoned. The Prince himself has lately shown the greatest unwillingness to undertake the office, and in this he has been confirmed by the advice of his friends. His father, Prince Jerome, is unwilling that his son, to whom he is much attached, should quit him at his advanced time of life. The appointment has therefore fallen to the ground.

Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers entered "his chief town of Nantes" the other day with almost Imperial pomp, on assuming the command of his military division of the empire. He rode on horseback, accompanied by an escort of dragoons and gendarmes, and followed by all the principal civil authorities of the place. He afterwards held a review of all the troops of the division, and distributed among them 206 St. Helena medals. Marshals Magnan at Caen and Havre, and Canrobert in the Meurthe, are going through the same military ceremonial.

At the sitting of the Conference on Monday the union of the Principalities was formally negatived by four votes to three. England, Austria, Turkey, and Prussia having voted against it; France, Russia, and Sardinia (the triad is ominous of future policy) for the union: i.e., in the Russo-Greek interest.

It is said that the military authorities have decided that it is not expedient to institute any legal proceedings against the military men engaged in the late duel in which M. de Pene was wounded, the civil authorities having negatived the proceedings against the civilians.

## PRUSSIA.

A letter from Berlin says:—"The public has learnt with great satisfaction that the Ministry has at length decided on increasing the Prussian navy. The Cabinet will propose to the Chambers to raise the navy budget from 710,000 thalers, the present allowance, to 1,500,000 thalers, or even 2,000,000."

## DENMARK.

Five Ministerial and four Opposition candidates have been elected at Copenhagen. President Hall, who has warmly declared himself in favour of Liberal Independent principles, and against Germany, was unanimously elected.

## SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

A letter from Christiania of the 8th, in the *Nord* of Brussels, says:—"The Session of the Storting closed to-day. The Assembly at its sitting of yesterday adopted, after a discussion of five hours, the Royal proposition for authorising the Government to contract a loan of 3,600,000 thalers, in one or two issues, at the rate of 4 or 4½ per cent per annum."

## UNITED STATES.

The latest intelligence from the United States reports no abatement whatever in the feeling of indignation at the proceedings of the British cruisers. American men-of-war have been rapidly equipped and dispatched in haste to the Cuban waters, with instructions to warn our commanders against the search of American vessels, and, in case of persistence, to prevent it by force. In the Senate a bill has been reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs authorising the President to employ force to protect the rights of citizens from the aggressions of foreign Powers. Lord Napier is said to have dispatched a messenger by special steamer to the British Admiral commanding on the West India station, informing him of the feeling that existed with regard to the conduct of the British cruisers, and the measures that have been taken by the United States Government. The despatches are not in the nature of instructions, but simply suggestions for his guidance until the British Government can be heard from.

The House of Representatives by a large majority have suspended the rules and received a proposition, which it referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, requiring the President to issue orders for the arrest of the offenders connected with the act of the British cruisers.

A bill for placing the military and naval forces, and 10,000,000 dollars, with 50,000 volunteers, at the disposal of the President, to resist the pretensions of Great Britain, and to authorise him to send a special Ambassador to England if necessary, had been introduced in the Senate.

The House of Representatives has passed a joint resolution which virtually is a declaration of war against the Republic of Paraguay. At Petersburg, Virginia, great excitement had been caused by the discovery that several slaves were missing upon the departure of a schooner belonging to Wilmington, Delaware. A steamer was sent in pursuit, and five slaves were found on board. The captain, crew, and slaves were taken back and lodged in gaol. 2000 people were at the wharf when the steamer returned, and were with great difficulty restrained from violence. The vessel was also towed back.

A vigilance committee of citizens was formed in New Orleans on the 2nd for the suppression of murders and robberies. They seized the Arsenal, and large numbers of volunteers were flocking to them. The Mayor called out the militia to oppose the committee. Ultimately the vigilance committee triumphed. A thousand men had been appointed to maintain order and protect the polls on the day of election, the 7th.

News from Utah to May 6 says that the Mormons had expelled the newly-appointed Governor Cumming from their settlement, and determined to resist the troops to the last. Latest intelligence confirms this report.

A fearful tornado has passed over the village of Ellison, Monmouth county, Illinois. Every house in the place was blown down, and fifteen persons killed and severally dangerously wounded.

## THE WEST INDIES.

A portion of the West India squadron is employed cruising off Havana for slaves; they have made three prizes. The United States' steamer *Jamestown* is lying at Greytown. At Panama are the United States' ships *Merrimac*, *Saranac*, *Decatur*, and *Vandalia*. The weather has been generally fine in the islands, and the public health good.

At Jamaica the rejection of the Colonial Immigration Act by the Imperial Government has caused great dissatisfaction, it being considered that the colony had been treated unfairly in comparison with Demerara. The Courts of Jamaica have condemned a fine brigantine, prize to the *Forward*, taken in the prosecution of the slave-trade.

At Demerara the combined Courts have decided upon the abolition of the registration-tax, in opposition to the Governor; and some of the most useful measures which have been introduced by the Government since 1856 have been rendered nugatory by this act. The sum of 80,000 dollars has been voted for the sea-dams by which Georgetown is defended.

The export returns from Trinidad are of a favourable nature. In Barbadoes the young canes are suffering for want of rain. The old crop has almost entirely been gathered in. A large amount of sugar has been made.

At Antigua the exports of sugar will reach about 16,000 hogsheads. In Grenada the exports are favourable, showing an increase on last year. The British ship *Fulwell* has arrived with some 400 coolies from Calcutta.

## AUSTRALIA.

The dates from Melbourne are to the 15th of April. The non-arrival of the *Columbian* had created great dissatisfaction, and the Legislative Assembly of Victoria had unanimously passed a resolution calling on the Imperial Government to cancel the contract.

The new Victoria Ministry has adopted the Reform Bill without the minority clause. The principle of this bill is that of equal electoral districts, and the representation is based on population.

On the requisition of the Governor-General of India, the 77th regiment and a company of Artillery, hoisted and ready for service, were to go to Calcutta direct in her Majesty's steamer *Magara*.

Sir W. W. Burton, late Judge at Madras, has been appointed President of the Legislative Assembly, and Sir D. Cooper has been elected Speaker of the Lower House.

While a grand scheme of railways was under consideration, the electric telegraph was rapidly connecting the Australian colonies.

Sir W. Denison, in opening Parliament, had represented the state of New South Wales as satisfactory.

## CHINA.

From Shanghai we have advices to the 14th April. Lord Elgin left for the Peiho on the 10th April in her Majesty's steamer *Furious*, and was preceded or accompanied by her Majesty's ship *Pique*, steamers *Cormorant* and *Nimrod*, and the gun-boat *Stanley*. Count Pontiatine left Worsong for the north on the 9th. Baron Gros and Mr. Reed had also proceeded north.

## SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

In the days when there were Chartists—visible, flesh and blood, and almost acting Chartists—that body used to assert that there was more sympathy between the so-called representatives of the people of England and the Tories than between them and any section of the Liberal party. Mr. Disraeli too, in some of his semi-political novels, proved, to his own satisfaction, least, that the aristocracy and the working classes, and even the Chartists, whom some of his heroes were assisting to cut down, were distinctly *en rapport*. Some of the sibylline prophecies which the proximate leader of the country party then uttered are being brought into fulfilment by the Tory Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the ghost of Chartism must rejoice in spirit when it is found that a point of the Charter has been sent home into our political system by the hands that were wont to be raised, not only in warning but in antagonism, against the least inkling of an infusion of democracy into our institutions. If Lord Grey speak truth, we are at this moment in the first phase of a revolution; while Mr. Bright declares that if the practice—he says nothing of the creed—of the present Government be Conservatism, it will have his earnest support, inasmuch as it is founded on justice and morality. Nay, Lord John Manners himself boldly tells those of his co-thinkers who are inclined to be recalcitrant that he never gave a more decidedly Tory vote than that which assisted to carry the bill for the abolition of the property qualification for members of Parliament. When that bill was at its last stage in the House of Lords, even the Lord Chancellor seemed impatient to put the final question, and to chafe at the interposition of Lord Ravensworth's croaking declamation—an excusable impatience at any time—and at Lord Denman's wild and flattered attempt to put a negative on the third reading; and never from the woolsack, in the days of the most emphatic of Chancellors—say Lord Brougham on the Reform Bill—was a question put, and the enunciation of the contents having it delivered, in a more pronounced tone than when Lord Chelmsford gave the imprimatur of the upper branch of the Legislature to Mr. Locke King's first actual triumph in legislation, that honourable gentleman's victories hitherto having been confined to the overthrow of Ministries with whom he was in political accordance, to a certain extent. Curiously enough, almost simultaneously with the becoming law of a measure which declares that there is no necessity for a member of Parliament to have a penny, the House of Commons was occupied in expelling—for it is little else—a member of their House who was presumptuous enough to suppose that the circulars which fly about to the residences of members every morning, begging, in the most emphatic language, and with words doubly and trebly underscored, that they will assist in saving their country on the coming evening by voting for a particular bill, was a practical avoidance of the law which debars an adjudicated bankrupt from sitting and voting in Parliament. It was certainly no very agreeable sight to witness that of a member of the Legislature standing like a culprit in his place, and endeavouring to deprecate the stern decree of political demolition which was so simply moved by Mr. Fitzroy, and so quietly disposed of by the reading of a few sentences by the clerk at the table. A member in such a case might well envy the feelings of many a man who has stooped before the executioner on Tower-hill, or taken his last look at earth and sky on the Giant's Stair at Venice. The axe in preference to that fearful walk down the floor of the House of Commons, and that terrible exit from its doorway, on which is written in imagination for a time, and most probably for all time, the words "No entrance here for you."

An observer of things Parliamentary may, notwithstanding the subsiding of a good deal of the fever and heat of the Session, pick up many little notabilities if he keeps his eyes open. Nothing is more curious or more interesting, if one's taste lies that way, than a study of the psychology of Parliament. For instance, now, if one chooses to look at the abstract workings of character without troubling oneself with diving into the consideration of speeches or political sentiments, one might learn that Mr. Bright, during his recent enforced abstinence from public life, has evidently been indulging in light literature. There are certainly phrases and allusions in his addresses—which, by-the-by, are getting very frequent indeed—which smack of readings in easy-chairs, and desultory unbending with that class of books of which Mr. Mudie is the arch-provider. There is a poetical quotation here, and an antithetical sentence from a *poco-curante* writer there, aptly introduced, and given with an unction and a freshness which show that the hon. gentleman has for a time wooed and won an emancipation from the slavery of blue-books and the chains of tyrant political economy; and, on the whole, we should say that, while his manly eloquence has lost nothing, it has gained a variety and an airiness, and a sort of literary tone, which make Mr. Bright now one of the most agreeable, as he was always one of the most powerful, of speakers. Then, how suggestive it is to witness the decided manner in which Mr. Disraeli is cultivating a talent for silence! Since Lord Stanley has taken the labouring oar in the discussions on the India Bill, Mr. Disraeli seems carefully to avoid the use of speech as much as possible. To be sure, one does not see why he should put himself in the difficulty of accusing himself by excusing himself, in all those cases in which the squeezability of the present Government is made so manifest. It is, perhaps, a relief to him to be able to put Mr. Henley forward, hardly and acridly to attempt a faint protest against a measure like Mr. Locke King's County Franchise Bill, which simply goes to extinguish the territorial influence on which Mr. Disraeli's party say the existence of our Constitution depends; and it is, perhaps, pardonable in the Chancellor of the Exchequer to run away, and leave Sir John Pakington or Mr. Walpole to play leader for a few moments, and to give the assent of the Ministry to some of those thousand and one committees and commissions which are granted night after night so lavishly. Indeed, if some peripatetic proprietor of a donkey was to lose that cherished companion of his walks, and he could prevail on a member of Parliament—which would not be difficult—to move for a Committee of Inquiry, with a view to ascertain whether the animal had been stolen or not, the Government would graciously accede, merely suggesting the substitution of the word "strayed" for that of "stolen."

It may be, and perhaps ought to be, remarked that so decided has been the declension of Lord John Russell's influence in the House during the past week, that for once, probably for the first time, that noble Lord has got into a passion, and, above all, with Sir James Graham, whose calm temperament and cold smile are certainly irritating enough to a statesman whose power is fleeting from his grasp, and who has the dissatisfaction of knowing that all his efforts to embarrass the Ministry only result in their getting unexpected majorities, which, perhaps, would have been unattainable but for Lord John's perverse and ceaseless meddling or peddling with the Indian resolutions. He ought to see that the House wants to get on with them, and to learn, once for all, whether there is to be an Indian Bill or not this year. Certainly, now that morning sittings are becoming normal, that prospect partakes more than ever of the nature of a dissolving view.



## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

The following abstract of the Parliamentary Intelligence for Friday, the 19th inst., appeared in the Saturday edition of this journal last week.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, JUNE 11.

## CASE OF THE "CAGLIARI."

The Earl of MALMESBURY said, in reference to the question which had been put to him yesterday by the Earl of Airlie, he was happy to inform their Lordships that the King of Naples has agreed to pay to her Majesty's Government £3000 as compensation to the engineers Watt and Park, and without any condition whatsoever. The Neapolitan Government had also given up the ship *Cagliari* and the whole of her crew to her Majesty's Government (Cheers).

PROPERTY QUALIFICATION BILL, after some discussion, passed through Committee.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, JUNE 11.

BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY.—Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that on Tuesday, the 22nd inst., he should move for leave to bring in a bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to bankruptcy and insolvency.

THE HUDSON'S BAY TERRITORY.—Mr. ROEBUCK gave notice that he should on Tuesday, the 25th inst., move a resolution, asserting that the charter of the Hudson's Bay territory—which would shortly expire—ought not to be renewed; that the rights of the company ought to be submitted to legal proceedings; that a part of the territory ought to be made into a free colony, and thrown open to emigration; and that the whole of the territory between the Pacific and the Rocky Mountains, including Vancouver's Island and Queen Charlotte's Sound, ought to be created a second separate colony.

PACIFICATION OF OUDE.—Mr. WILSON asked the President of the Board of Control whether any distinct information had been received that Lord Canning's proclamation had been issued at Lucknow, and of the result which had been produced upon the talookdars in their relation to the British Government?—Lord STANLEY said that, from information he had received, he believed the policy pursued in Oude was a policy of conciliation, and that a favourable effect had been produced upon the talookdars.

ANNEXATION OF DHAR.—Mr. J. B. SMITH asked the President of the Board of Control whether the Government had decided on confirming or disallowing the annexation of the principality of Dhar; and, in case the Government had decided on the above question, whether it would produce copies of the correspondence which had taken place on the subject?—Lord STANLEY said it was the intention of the Government to disallow the policy of annexation with regard to the territory of Oude. In the present state of affairs, he thought it would be improper to lay the correspondence on the table of the House.

## EUROPEAN ARMAMENTS.

Sir C. NAPIER called attention to the present extensive preparations making by land and sea by the nations of Europe, and especially France; and inquired whether there was any intention of asking for any additional vote for the Navy, or of calling out militia to replace the 10,000 men about to be sent out to India?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER thought the gallant Admiral might have been in possession of some recent information, but he was glad to hear that he had no more knowledge than that which formed the basis of the three speeches he had delivered this Session (Hear, hear). He saw no cause for alarm. At present her Majesty's Government was in constant communication with France, and those communications were of a most friendly character. He did not intend to take any steps based upon any apprehension of a war with any European Power. The relations between the two countries were of a most cordial and confidential character, and he believed the result would be the maintenance of the peace of Europe, and not its outrageous disturbances. He did not think that it was sound policy always to give foreign Governments credit for the worst intentions. He might add that a despatch had been received that day stating that the King of Naples was prepared to pay adequate and ample compensation to our fellow-countrymen, the engineers. Further, that the King of Naples had placed the Sardinian ship the *Cagliari* and the whole of the crew at the disposal of the Queen of England. The ship would proceed to Genoa, where it would be delivered by Mr. Barber to the King of Sardinia. With regard to the defences, he thought that was a matter that should be left to those who had the conduct of affairs, but, at the same time, he had no doubt that under any circumstances we should be able to defend our shores and vindicate our honour.

Mr. BRIGHT complained that professional persons like the gallant Admiral were always exciting fears in the minds of peaceable citizens, and that no sooner did they get rid of one French invasion than they were haunted by fears of another.

Sir C. WOOD defended the conduct of the late Government with regard to our naval defences.

Sir J. PAKINGTON expressed his hearty concurrence in every word that had been said by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and said he saw nothing in the state of foreign affairs to excite alarm in the public mind. At the same time he admitted the importance of keeping our naval defences in a satisfactory state so as to be prepared for all emergencies; and asserted that the present Ministry, ever since they came into office, had endeavoured to make our naval defences effective; and that they could now, at the very shortest notice, summon together a fleet that would be able to cope with the fleet of any nation of Europe.

In answer to Mr. RIDLEY.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD said that he could give no information as to whether the King of Naples had acted upon the advice of any third-rate Power, but the demand was sent out by a messenger who was instructed to wait ten days for a reply, and then to return immediately if no reply were given. That messenger returned, however, within the time with a satisfactory reply, and so the question was settled. The amount of compensation was £3000 (Cheers). The subject then dropped.

## THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The House having gone into Committee, Lord J. RUSSELL resumed the adjourned debate on the third of these resolutions, suggesting that the Council should consist of not more than twelve members.

Lord STANLEY moved that the number of Councillors should be not more than fifteen, but without pledging the Government to that particular number.

After a long discussion upon points of detail, Mr. BRIGHT said it appeared to him to be a complete waste of time to spend, as they had done, several hours in discussing whether the Council should consist of twelve or fifteen members. He was himself in favour of the smaller number, and hoped the Government would accept that number; but if Lord Palmerston would move eight, the number proposed in his own bill, he (Mr. Bright) would support that as a better number still.

Lord PALMERSTON said he believed the number proposed in his bill would work well, but he should concur with Lord John Russell, and vote for making the Council consist of twelve members.

Mr. ELLICE remarked that while the point before the Committee was the key-note of the whole question, there appeared to be no unanimity of opinion as to the number of which the Council should be composed, nor yet as to what should be its functions.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER reminded the Committee that the resolution was only intended to serve as a guide for the preparation of a bill, and called upon the Committee to go to a division and show that they were in earnest in their intention to legislate for India.

The Committee then divided, when the motion for "fifteen" was carried by 243 to 176.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

## ADMISSION OF JEWS TO PARLIAMENT.

The Earl of CLANCARTY having given notice that upon the second reading of the Oaths Substitution Bill and the Jew Bill he should move as an amendment that the bills be read a second time that day six months.

The Earl of MALMESBURY mentioned that Lord Derby was detained from the House by indisposition, which might possibly last some days. He hoped, therefore, that the further progress of the bills, which stood on the paper for Friday next, might be postponed.

The Earl of LUCAN consented to his postponement so far as his measure was concerned, and it was understood that both bills should stand over.

After some remarks from Lord REDESDALE, Lord BROUGHAM and Lord CAMPBELL the subject dropped.

## THE MILITIA.

Lord HARDINGE, in reply to the Duke of Buccleuch, said that her Majesty's Ministers intended to embody a certain number of militia regiments in the course of the autumn.

Further remarks on this subject were offered by Earl GREY, the Marquis of CLANRICARDE, and other peers. In the course of the discussion,

The Duke of CAMBRIDGE stated that a Royal commission was about to be issued for inquiring into the whole question of the militia establishment.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The Royal assent was given by Commission to a series of public and private bills.

The Probate and Letters of Administration Act Amendment Bill passed through Committee; as did the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Act Amendment Bill, with amendments and clauses added.

Some bills were advanced a stage.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

PROCESSIONS IN TUAM.—Sir W. VERNER having inquired whether the Government had received any account of a procession in the streets of Tuam, which procession was composed of priests and others of the Church of Rome, in their ecclesiastical costume, and carrying the Host, and whether such procession was conformable to law? Mr. WHITEHEAD replied that statements had been published respecting the occurrence of

such a procession; but it did not appear to have been held in the streets of Tuam.

## THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The House having again resolved itself into Committee on the Indian Government resolutions,

Lord STANLEY moved the fifth resolution:—"That with a view to the efficiency and independence of the council it is expedient that it should be partly nominated and partly elected."

Lord J. RUSSELL, pursuant to notice, moved an amendment, recommending "that the members of the council be appointed by her Majesty."

Sir J. GRAHAM, who declared his non-concurrence with the proposed adoption of the nomination principle, suggested that the first members of council should be nominated in the bill, and comprise a majority of members of the present Court of Directors.

The question between election and nomination in the proposed Indian Council was urged at much length by Sir G. Lewis, Sir E. Perry, Mr. S. Herbert, Mr. H. Baillie, Lord Goderich, Colonel Sykes, Lord Stanley, Lord Palmerston, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Roebuck, Sir F. Baring, Mr. Dieraceli, and other members.

On a division, Lord J. Russell's amendment was negatived by a majority of 250 to 185.

The House almost immediately divided again on a motion for reporting progress, which was also negatived by 239 to 155.

The resolution (No. 5) was then put and carried without a division.

The House then resumed.

## PEACE PRESERVATION (IRELAND) ACT CONTINUANCE BILL.

On the motion that this bill should be read a second time Mr. BAGWELL moved an amendment deferring the second reading for six months.

After some remarks defending the measure from Lord NAAS, followed by a brief discussion,

The House divided:—For the motion, 168; for the amendment, 20.

The bill was then read a second time.

The other orders were then disposed of.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE PROPERTY QUALIFICATIONS BILL was read a third time and passed, after some opposition from Lord Denman, followed by a brief debate, but not pressed to a division.

THE "CAGLIARI."—Lord SALISBURY, on behalf of the Foreign Secretary, promised to lay on the table the correspondence relating to the *Cagliari*.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. TOWNSEND.—At the early sitting Mr. FITZROY moved that Mr. Townsend, the member for Greenwich, who had been adjudicated a bankrupt, should be declared incapable of sitting and voting in the House.—Mr. TOWNSEND entered into explanations; after which the motion was agreed to, subject to the usual conditions if the adjudication were superseded within a certain time.

## SALE AND TRANSFER OF LAND (IRELAND) BILL.

The House then proceeded to discuss, in Committee, this bill, and had got through some clauses when the hour arrived for suspending further proceedings.

THE CASE OF MR. BARBER.—On the motion of Mr. BRADY, and with the assent of Sir J. Pakington, a Select Committee was ordered to inquire into the case of Mr. Barber, who had been unjustly convicted and punished for alleged malpractices as a solicitor.

## UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SCOTLAND.

Mr. BAXTER moved a resolution setting forth that, in the opinion of the House, an Under-Secretary of State for Scotland should be appointed to perform the political duties at present attached to the office of Lord Advocate. The hon. member, in supporting his motion, enlarged upon the extent and importance of the political duties which the Lord Advocate was called upon to execute, especially as regarded the carriage of measures relating to Scotland through the House of Commons, and the distribution of patronage. He insisted that these duties were inconsistent with the legal and judicial functions assigned to the Lord Advocate, and ought to be performed by a specially-appointed Minister of the Crown.

The motion was seconded by Mr. EWART.

Mr. BOUVIER believed that the proposed change would impair the efficiency of the present system as regarded the transaction of Scotch business, both legal and political, in that House.

The motion received a qualified support from Mr. Stirling. It was opposed by Mr. E. ELLICE.

After some remarks from Mr. OGILVY and Mr. CRAUFORD,

Mr. W. WILLIAMS objected to a proposal whose chief result would be to create a new office, costing the country £1500 a year.

The LORD ADVOCATE also opposed the bill. The appointment of an Under-Secretary of State for Scotland would not, he said, diminish the weight of duty devolving upon the office, which experience had shown him to be almost exclusively of a judicial character.

Lord DUNCAN having spoken in opposition to the bill,

Lord PALMERSTON concurred in thinking the proposed appointment altogether unnecessary. Important judicial functions were now assigned to the Lord Advocate, which could not be transferred to an Under-Secretary; while all the political questions arising in Scotland fell within the department of the Home Secretary.

Mr. DUNLOP supported the motion.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER maintained that under the present system there was no lack either of responsibility or efficiency in the conduct of the Scotch department of administration.

After a few words from Sir G. Montgomery, and a reply by Mr. Baxter, The House divided.—For the motion, 47; against it, 174.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Lord NAAS moved for leave to introduce two bills—one to make better provision for the police force in Dublin and other towns in Ireland; the other to provide for a more effectual administration of justice in the police district of Dublin city.—After a brief discussion leave was given to bring in the bills.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL obtained leave to introduce a bill enabling persons to establish their legitimacy by the judgment of a court of law, and also in like manner to establish their right to be regarded as natural-born subjects of Great Britain; and extending the jurisdiction of the Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes.

Leave was also given to Mr. McMAHON to bring in a bill to secure the right of new trial in criminal cases.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

## EDINBURGH, &amp; C., ANNUITY TAX BILL.

At the day sitting of the House, Mr. BLACK moved the second reading of this bill. He supported the motion by a brief explanation and defence of the measure.

The motion was seconded by Mr. BAXTER.

Mr. BLACKBURN, who opposed the bill, moved as an amendment that the second reading should be deferred for six months.

The discussion, which related entirely to questions of local interest and detail, was continued by Mr. Buchanan, Mr. J. B. Smith, Mr. F. Scott, Mr. C. Bruce, and Sir E. Colebrooke.

The LORD ADVOCATE declared his dissent from a measure which would, he contended, take away a provision from the Established Church in Edinburgh, without providing an equivalent.

After some further remarks from Lord Duncan and Mr. Horsman, the House divided.—For the motion, 129; for the amendment, 130. The bill was consequently negatived by a majority of one.

## REGISTRATION OF COUNTY VOTERS' (SCOTLAND) BILL.

On the motion for going into Committee on this bill, Mr. DUNDAS moved the formal amendment suspending the Committee on the measure for six months.

A brief discussion ensued, closed by a division, in which further progress with the bill was negatived by a majority of 108 to 98.

## INSURANCE AND ASSURANCE INSTITUTIONS' BILL.

A motion for postponing until July 7 the second reading of this bill was opposed by Mr. HENLEY and Mr. S. ESCOURT, who suggested that the measure should be withdrawn. The discussion was, however, prolonged until a quarter to six o'clock, when the debate was adjourned in pursuance of the rule of the House.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The Public Grounds and Playground Bill passed through Committee. The Peace Preservation (Ireland) Act Continuance Bill was read a third time and passed.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

LETTER FROM LORD CANNING.—The LORD CHANCELLOR read a letter just received from Lord Canning, acknowledging the receipt of the vote of thanks passed by their Lordships to the Governor-General and to the officers of the military and civil services in India, and stating that he had forwarded a copy of the resolution to each of the officers distinguished by name. Lord Canning announced his intention of communicating the answers he should receive from them, and expressed his assurance that their Lordships' approval of the conduct of the officers of both services would serve to stimulate their exertions. In conclusion, the noble Lord begged, on the part of himself, to offer his respectful and grateful acknowledgments for the honour conferred upon him by marking his humble services with the high reward of their approbation (Hear, hear).

The Probate and Letters of Administration Act Amendment Bill, and the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Act Amendment Bill, were severally reported with amendments. On the proposition of Lord REDESDALE, it was agreed that the latter bill should be extended to Ireland.

The Law of False Pretences Amendment Bill passed through Committee.

## THE SPANISH SLAVE TRADE.

The Bishop of Oxford, pursuant to notice, presented a petition from the island of Jamaica touching the Spanish slave trade, and called the

attention of the House to the subject. The right rev. Prelate then proceeded to show that Spain had violated the several treaties she had entered into with us on this subject; and, what made the matter worse, we had paid her £400,000 by the way of indemnity for losses sustained by her giving up the trade. When Valdez was Captain General of Cuba he had set his face against that trade, and during the two years he held that office it had in a great measure ceased to be carried on. In 1840 there were 14,470 slaves imported into Cuba; whereas in 1842, when Valdez was Captain-General, there were 3100. In the former year there were 56 ships engaged in the accursed traffic; while in the latter year there were only three. It was, therefore, quite evident that, if the Spanish Government really desired to put a stop to the slave trade, they could do so with the greatest ease. But it was quite obvious that the indignation of Spain was altogether favourable to this trade; for though, even in Cuba, public opinion was opposed to it, its expression was invariably suppressed and punished by the authorities of that place. With the exception of the two years to which he had referred, the slave trade had been carried on with great vigour up to the present time under the authority of the Spanish Government. The right rev. Prelate then observed that it behoved this country to have a proper understanding with the United States' Government, for an indiscreet step of any of our commanders might involve the two nations in a war that would be ruinous to both. If Spain had acted in respect to Cuba as nobly as Portugal had acted in respect to Brazil, there would have been no reason for the presentation of the petition which was now placed upon the table.

Lord BROUGHAM concurred in the views expressed by the right rev. Prelate, and in a speech characterised by his usual eloquence denounced the abominable slave trade, and its advocates and supporters, wherever they might be found.

The Earl of MALMESBURY admitted that Spain was open to the imputation of encouraging violations of her slave-trade treaties with this country, and said it would be a question, if she continued to do so, how far the moral support given to her by this country in opposition to the known wish of America to become possessed of Cuba should be continued. With regard to our present position in connection with America, he had written out to say that her Majesty's Government would not insist on the right of search, but that they trusted there would be a mutual co-operation for the establishment of a sort of oceanic police, so as to compel vessels to sail under their true flags, and prevent violations of international law.

Lord WODEHOUSE expressed his conviction that the people of England would never consent to any step that bore the appearance of being a retreat from the proud position they had taken up on the slave trade.

Earl GREY admitted that Spain had violated her treaty with this country in still tolerating the slave trade, and denounced the conduct of the French Government in its recent attempt to revive the slave trade under the most flimsy disguises.

After some further discussion, the subject dropped.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The Committee of the whole House on this subject was resumed.

Lord STANLEY moved the following as the sixth resolution, viz.:—"That the members of the nominated portion of the Council shall be selected by her Majesty, subject, as a general rule, to the qualification before expressed, and one-half at the least of the elected members shall possess the like qualification." The House had decided that permanent legislation should take place in the course of the present Session; but at the same time, they fixed the number of the Council, and had determined that a portion of them should be selected upon the elective principle, and the remainder nominated. The Committee had now to deal with the latter. One suggestion was, that the nomination should rest with the Governor-General and the other high authorities in India, who should nominate from their own body the three nominated Councillors. The objection to this plan was, that it would not produce the best men. The high authorities of India would be reluctant to deprive India of her most energetic and efficient administrators, and if this suggestion were adopted the men nominated would be most likely those who had seen their best days, and who were anxious to retire from active service. Another suggestion was that of the right hon. member for Carlisle, but there were vague objections to that also, and the Government, therefore, could not accept it. What the Government proposed then was this:—They had determined to adopt the number of the Council fixed by the House; namely, fifteen. Of that number they proposed that eight should be nominated by the Crown, and that the remaining seven should be selected from their own number by the existing Court of Directors, so far as the first appointments were concerned. There remained then to provide for filling up the vacancies that might occur in the Council. To supply these the Government proposed that they should be filled alternately by nomination and election, the election to rest with the members of the Council themselves.

Lord PALMERSTON observed that this was an entirely new proposal, and before the House was called upon to give a vote upon it he would suggest that the proposal itself should be put in form upon the paper. The noble Lord urged that the principle involved in this matter was much more serious than the House seemed to imagine, and he appealed to the Government to follow what he believed was their own inclination, by making the first appointments at least rest with the Crown. The noble Lord had not stated how the alternate vacancies were to be filled up, whether only by the elected members or by the whole Council.

Lord STANLEY: By the whole Council.

Lord PALMERSTON said the Crown then would always have a majority, and he thought that was additional reason why the House should pause before it adopted the unconstitutional principle involved in the proposal of the Government.

Mr. Secretary WALPOLE denied that the principle of election was opposed to the Constitution, and declared that the Government were sincere in the proposal they had made.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM thought the proposal was as yet incomplete, as no mention had been made of the tenure of office or the salaries of the Councillors. He did not agree with the noble Lord the member for Tiverton in thinking that the elective principle would be at variance with the Constitution. He would, therefore, suggest that the proposal of the Government should be embodied in the form of a resolution embracing every branch of the question, and that on Monday next the House should take it into their serious consideration.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the Government proposed that the sixth and seventh resolutions should be passed over to-day, and left for future consideration, as suggested by the right hon. Baronet. There would then be a prospect of all the other resolutions being disposed of to-day, and a bill founded upon them brought in this week, which might be fixed for second reading on Monday next, when this question of the Council might be again taken up and settled in all its bearings.

Mr. BRIGHT thought the suggestion of the right hon. gentleman was just and ingenious; it was that they should say nothing more about the resolution (A laugh). Considering the state of the weather, and the horrid condition of the river, he thought for their own sakes the House could not do better than adopt it (Hear, hear). For his own part, speaking upon the general question, he thought this Council would turn out to be perfectly useless, if not absolutely obstructive (Hear).

Mr. GLADSTONE proposed that the House should drop all further discussion upon the details of the remaining resolutions. The main points to be decided, before they could enter upon details, was this question of the Council.

Lord J. RUSSELL agreed entirely with the right hon. gentleman. He looked upon the new scheme of the Government as virtually one of nomination by the Crown. There remained, however, the questions of salary, patronage, and tenure of office of the Council, to be decided. These were not exactly matters of detail. At the same time, looking at the spirit in which the Government had treated the whole subject, he was quite disposed to leave them in the hands of the Board of Control. Another important question was, whether the Council should have communicated to them all foreign despatches relating to the affairs of India; and also whether they should have the power of restraining or sanctioning the levying of war in India.

Lord STANLEY said it appeared to be the general impression that the resolutions, as far as they had gone, had answered the purpose for which they were originally intended ("Hear," and a laugh). At all events, they had gone far enough in obtaining the wishes of the House by resolution; and, since the House had now settled the principle upon which the future government of India should rest, he was prepared to withdraw the remaining resolutions, with a view of immediately bringing in a bill founded upon those which had already been carried (Cheers).

After some further discussion it was arranged that the remaining resolutions should be passed and reported *pro forma*, and that the bill should be introduced if possible that night, and read a second time on Thursday next.

The resolutions were reported accordingly, when the Speaker resumed the chair at six o'clock, and the bill, being brought in, was read a first time.

COMMISSIONERS OF EXHIBITION (1851) BILL.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which he defined as being to dissolve the partnership at present existing between the Government and the Commissioners of the Great Exhibition of 1851, upon condition that the latter should repay to the former the sum of £117,500, advanced by them in 1851, and, subsequently, together with one-half of the rents received by the commissioners since their purchase of the estate at Kensington Gore—less the value of the land upon which the museum for receiving the works of art lately removed from Marlborough House had been erected, with its improvements, to about £80,000.—After a long conversation, in the course of which several hon. members intimated their intention of moving amendments in Committee, the bill was read a second time.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.—The Joint-Stock Companies Act Amendment Bill passed through Committee. Mr. HAMILTON having explained that its object was to remedy the defect of the Act of 1857, with respect to allowing the Court of Chancery to continue a *bona fide* voluntary winding up, without first superseding it.

THE WILLS OF BRITISH SUBJECTS ABROAD BILL.—This bill was read a second time, with an understanding that the discussion should take place in Committee; and several other bills were advanced a stage.





THE SOLDIERS' DAUGHTERS' HOME, HAMPSTEAD.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)





GEORGE IV. AND THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON ON THE FIELD OF WATERLOO.

## THE FIELD OF WATERLOO.

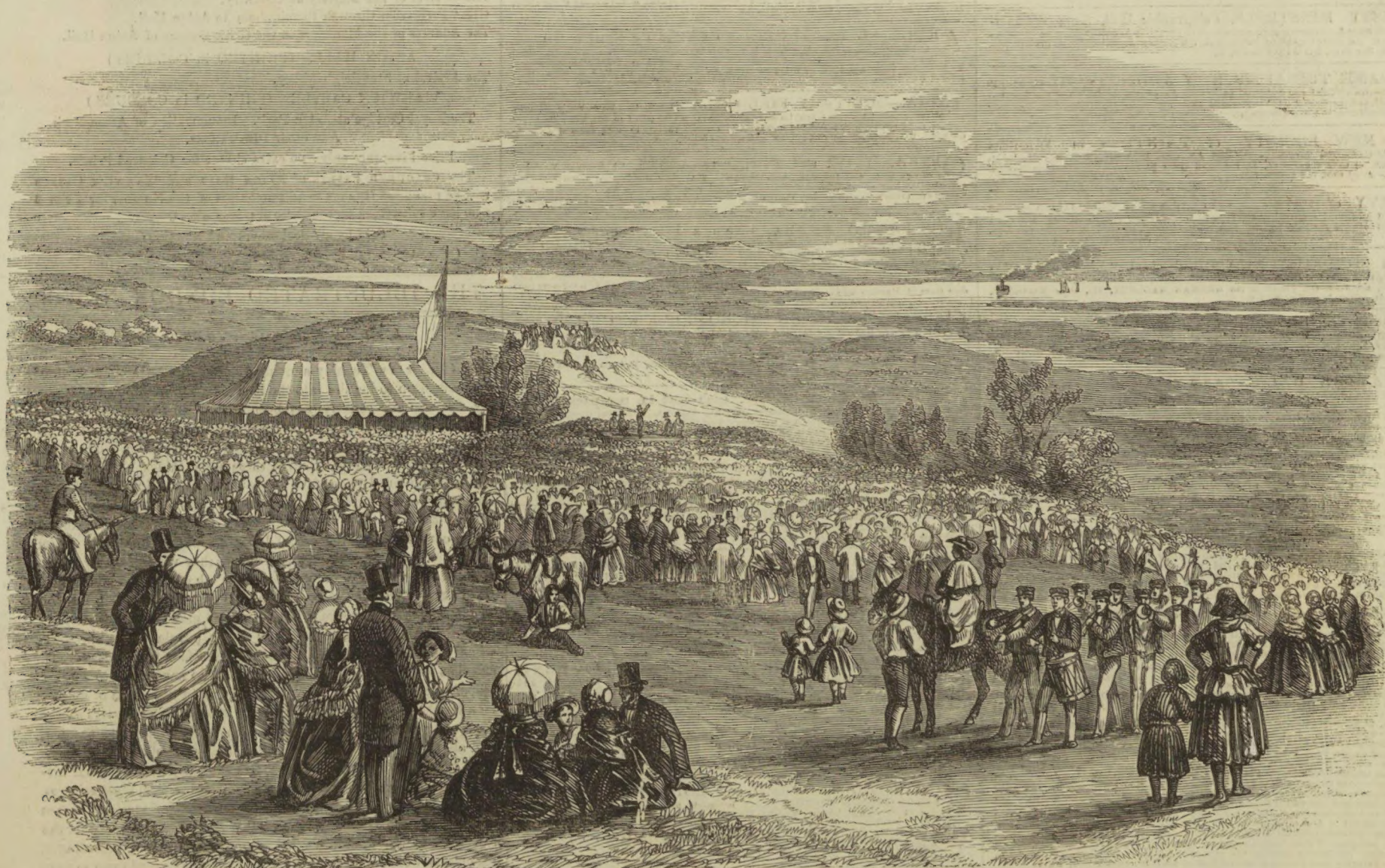
between three and four acres, in the best part of Hampstead, about half an hour's drive from town. They comprise a schoolhouse and residence for the governors and pupil-teachers, shown on the left; and on the right is the residential portion of the Home, consisting of a spacious dining-hall, 51 feet 6 inches long by 27 feet 3 inches, and 21 feet high; a covered play-room, with matron's rooms, store-rooms, and others on the ground floor. Spacious stone staircases and passages communicate with two floors of dormitories, ten feet high, each room of which is to hold about fourteen girls, giving a capacity, independent of ventilation, of 400 cubic feet per child, the principle of separate dormitories having recommended itself to the committee as being much superior to the congregation of a large number of girls in one room. Most capacious offices are provided for fully carrying out the industrial training of the children; baths for sanitary uses, with hot and cold water, and a system of ventilation throughout the whole of the building. There is a detached infirmary, with hot and cold bath, having, when it is to be used, a covered communication with the Home. The whole of the works have been executed from the design and under the superintendence of Mr. Munt, the honorary architect.

At the coronation of King George IV., which took place in the autumn of 1821, the Duke of Wellington officiated as Lord High Constable of England. Soon afterwards George IV. visited Ireland, and subsequently proceeded to his Hanoverian dominions. Upon the latter occasion the Duke of Wellington accompanied him. The King took the route by way of Ostend and Brussels. The vicinity of the field of Waterloo tempted his Majesty to proceed to the locality of the great battle, and he enjoyed, when there, the inestimable advantage of the society of the Duke, who, acting as cicerone, pointed out to the King the scenes of the various contests of the 18th June, 1815. George IV. was gifted with a strong comprehension, military tastes, and a perfect acquaintance with the science of war. With all the details of the great struggle fresh in his memory, he realised with facility the images conjured up by the exact description of the Duke. The contests at Hougoumont particularly interested the King. It is difficult to say who was the proudest man on that day—the King who heard upon the battle-field the story of the battle from the lips of the mightiest soldier in the memorable fight—or the Field Marshal, who “showed how

fields were won,” with the proudest Sovereign in Europe for his auditor. Forty-three years have passed since the Battle of Waterloo was fought, its anniversary being yesterday (Friday). In connection with the event we engrave the above group.

## TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES' TRIP.

On Monday week an excursion was made by members of temperance societies in Manchester, Liverpool, and Warrington, to Overton, near Chester. The day was brilliant. The neighbourhood is extremely picturesque, and the various amusements seemed to create lively satisfaction. Fires were lit, and tea *ad libitum* indulged in; whilst the orators of the party related their experiences and exercised their persuasive powers to willing ears. The whole scene was a pleasing illustration of the benefit which the railway confers, and of the growing appreciation of simple pleasures and delight in natural scenery which the people happily evince. From the summit of the hill the ruins of Halton Castle may be seen, together with the Welsh mountains, and a wide expanse of rich country. For the above sketch we are indebted to Mr. G. Hayes, Essex-street, Manchester.



GREAT TEMPERANCE GATHERING AT OVERTON HILL, NEAR CHESTER.



In the reign of William III., amongst the deferences then made to



## COUNTRY NEWS.

**THE HARVEST AND THE CROPS.**—From all points we continue to receive most favourable intelligence of the prospects of the coming harvest, and of the crops of every description. One will serve as a sample, with slight modifications, of the whole. Thus writes the *Sussex Advertiser*:—"A week of unceasingly lovely June weather has served to confirm all the gratifying reports as to the crops recorded in these columns for many weeks past. The wheat is fast coming into ear, and is looking as promising as possible. Beans, peas, and other crops also afford evidence of the most satisfactory progress, and at present there would seem no reason to doubt that our prospects for the year will be such as to have rarely, if ever, been surpassed. Haymaking is proceeding vigorously, and although the crops are scarcely so heavy as was at one time anticipated, yet on the whole and with the continuance of fine weather, the 'haying' can scarcely turn out other than satisfactory. As regards the wheat, we need only reiterate the remark of an old agriculturist last week—'Only give us a warm and quiet time for blooming, and there will be no mistake as to a good crop.'"

**PRESENTATION TO MAJOR-GENERAL WILSON.**—Some interesting proceedings took place at Norwich on Tuesday evening. The members of the Valpeian Club, which is composed of gentlemen who received their education under the famous Dr. Valpy, formerly Head Master of the Norwich Grammar School—having entertained at dinner their old schoolfellow, Major-General Sir Archdale Wilson, the leader of the captors of Delhi. Sir James Brooke, Rajah of Sarawak, presided. The special feature of the proceedings was the presentation to General Wilson of a handsome dress sword, richly chased, and bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Major-General Sir Archdale Wilson, Bart., K.C.B., the conqueror of Delhi, by Sir James Brooke, K.C.B., Rajah of Sarawak, and his schoolfellows, the members of the Valpeian Club, in commemoration of his distinguished services in India, 1857-8, and as a memento of old friendships. Norwich, June 15th, 1858." Sir James Brooke accompanied the presentation of the sword with an address; and Sir Archdale Wilson, in responding, announced that his career as a soldier was about to close, and stating that he should ever prize the handsome present which his old chums at the Norwich school had made him.

**THE OXFORD COMMEMORATION.**—The commemoration of founders and benefactors was held on Wednesday morning in the Sheldonian Theatre. Shortly after ten o'clock the undergraduates were admitted, and their feelings and fancies were soon expressed with the old license. When the customary preliminaries were over, Dr. Travers Twiss, Regius Professor of Civil Law, introduced, with appropriate addresses, the eminent personages on whom the honorary degree of D.C.L. was to be conferred, as follows:—Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe; Viscount Eversley, late Speaker of the House of Commons; the Right Hon. Sir Lawrence Peel, late Chief Justice of Bengal; Sir John Shaw Lefevre, Clerk of the Parliament, House of Lords; Major-General Sir John Eardley Wilmot Inglis, Mr. Thomas Dyke Acland, and Mr. Justice Halburton. Mr. Matthew Arnold, M.A., Oriel College, Professor of Poetry, next proceeded to deliver the annual Creweian oration, but was scarcely audible at any period of his harangue. The prize compositions were then recited by the successful competitors.

**SPRING GROVE FANCY BAZAAR AND FLOWER SHOW.**—The consecration of the new church at Spring Grove was the first act of the Bishop of London after his own consecration; and on that occasion the reverend Prelate chose for his text the words "Feed my lambs," and exhorted the inhabitants of this delightful locality to provide schools for the children of the poor before the population became too dense. This suggestion was responded to at once, and temporary schools were established in private rooms, in which there were soon more than 100 children. But permanent school accommodation became urgent; and on Monday and Tuesday (last week) a fancy bazaar and flower show was held in the beautiful grounds of Spring Grove House, in aid of a fund for erecting new district schools, upwards of 2000 being present, amongst whom were many persons of distinction. The bazaar was held on the lawn at the west side of the mansion, which was gaily decorated with flags of all nations; and marquees, fitted up for the occasion, were placed round the lawn. The band of the 11th Hussars occupied the centre, and contributed not a little, by some excellent music and the brightness of their uniform, to the gaiety of the whole scene. In the centre of the marquee devoted to the flower show was a fountain, designed by Mr. Lovegrove, of Spring Grove, and erected by him at his own expense as a contribution in aid of the fund. We are glad to be able to say the effort was very successful, upwards of £700 being collected.

**THE MUSEUM OF IRISH INDUSTRY.**—His Excellency the Earl of Eglinton presided on Monday night at the annual distribution of prizes to the successful pupils of the Museum of Irish Industry. There was a very fashionable attendance, and the business of the meeting was commenced by Sir Robert Kane, the director of the museum, delivering a lecture on the objects of its formation. His Excellency then addressed the pupils and their friends in a graceful speech—practical, appropriate, and instructive.

**MR. COMMISSIONER STEPHENSON, of the Liverpool Bankruptcy Court, died suddenly on Tuesday morning, while crossing the Mersey in one of the ferry steamers, of disease of the heart.**

**DEATH OF THE LORD JUSTICE CLERK.**—We have to make the painful announcement of the death of Lord Justice Clerk Hope, which took place at a late hour on Monday night. His Lordship, when finishing a letter to a relative, about seven o'clock, was seized with paralysis, and never rallied from the attack, expiring about half-past eleven. His Lordship was in his sixty-fourth year. He passed for the bar in 1816, and was elevated to the presidency of the Second Division of the Court of Session in 1844.

**CONWAY NATIONAL AND INFANT SCHOOLS.**—The Rev. J. B. Binns, her Majesty's Inspector of Schools, visited Conway a few days ago, when the above schools were subjected to his examination. His report was exceedingly favourable. The Infant School he pronounced to be one of the best regulated in North Wales. He also spoke in eulogistic terms of the state of efficiency in which he found the National School.

**SHIPBUILDING OF THE TYNE.**—On Saturday last was launched from the building-yard of Messrs. Palmer (Brothers) and Co., the *Hudson*, the largest iron steam-ship yet built on the Tyne. She is a vessel of very noble proportions, is 3000 tons burden, will be propelled by engines of 700-horse power nominal—about 200 effective—and is of the following dimensions:—345 feet over all, 40 feet beam, and 26 feet deep. She has four decks—poop, spar, middle, and lower.

**THE SCREW STEAMER "NEW YORK."** on her voyage from the Clyde to New York, went ashore on the Mull of Cantyre during the night of the 12th inst., and, according to the latest advices, had ten feet of water in her hold. The crew and passengers were saved.

**DESTRUCTIVE STORMS** were of frequent occurrence last week in different parts of the country. The town and neighbourhood of Reading were visited on Saturday evening last with the most violent and destructive hailstorm that has occurred for a period of about twenty years. The hailstones, which were of large size—some like marbles, and others having almost the appearance of square pieces of ice—fell heavily for twelve or fifteen minutes, and drove everything before it. Many windows were broken and many gardens extensively injured. For a long time afterwards the hail remained in places fully six inches deep, and the storm was followed by a dense fog after dusk. Earlier in the same day Liverpool experienced a similar storm. A Methodist chapel was struck by the lightning, part of the roof knocked down, the tablets containing the Ten Commandments were burnt, and the clock struck and stopped. A wheat-stack near the town was set on fire and reduced to ashes. Birmingham was visited in a similar manner the same day. With the rain, which fell in torrents, came down, it is stated, "black meteoric substances of the size of peas." One of the flagstaffs set up on the Townhall for her Majesty's visit was shattered by lightning. Two men were struck down near Derby, and one much hurt, but he recovered. In Scotland similar occurrences took place on various days of the week.

**A MURDER**, attended with considerable mystery, has been committed at Brockmoor, in South Staffordshire. The victim, an engineer, named Collier, had been drinking with a friend, named Onions, on Thursday week, and they left late at night to go to Collier's lodgings. Collier was found murdered and shockingly mangled the next morning, not far off; and Onions has disappeared. But no motive can be conceived for the commission of the murder.

**PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS IN THE CHURCH.**—*Rectories:* Rev. R. A. T. Barrett to Stower Provost with Todber, Dorset; Rev. R. J. Ozone, incumbent of St. Matthew's District Church, Gurnsey, to St. Andrew, in that island; Rev. W. Tringham to Wootton Fitzpaine, Dorset. *Vicarage:* Rev. W. Reeves to Lusk, diocese of Dublin. *Incumbency:* Rev. J. M. Kennedy to Christ Church, West Ham. *Chaplaincies:* Rev. T. H. Burn to the Bishop of Calcutta; Rev. G. B. De Renzi to Millbank Prison; Rev. F. E. Everett to the County Gaol, Cornwall; Rev. A. H. P. Treman, Vicar of Hminster, to the West Somerset Yeomanry Cavalry. *Perpetual Curacies:* Rev. J. Adams to Stockcross, Spetch, Dorset; Rev. C. Hecker to Lanest, Cornwall; Rev. J. Hughes to Gwerndfeld, Flintshire; Rev. J. Jones to Gwersyllt, Denbighshire; Rev. S. W. Mangin to Headington Quarry, Oxon; Rev. H. Sweeting to the Chesham District of Zeala, near Mere, Wits. *Curacies:* Rev. S. C. Adams to Holy Trinity, Wicker, Sheffield; Rev. J. G. Bingley to Margaretting, Essex; Rev. W. H. Evans to Frating with Thorington, Essex; Rev. C. E. Gibson to St. John, Keswick, Cumberland; Rev. A. W. Mason to Chelmsford, Essex; Rev. J. K. F. Merk to West Mersea, Essex; Rev. C. N. Roberts to Halstead, Essex; Rev. E. B. Smith to Gresford, Denbighshire.

**THE REV. H. W. M'GRATH**, the Rector of St. Paul's, Kersall Moor, has been appointed to be an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of Manchester.

## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

**KATHLEEN MAVOURNEEN**, in some facetious answer to the celebrated song, gently remarks to her lover that it certainly may be for years, and it may be for ever, that they are going to part, but that is no reason why she should be called out of bed, with her hair out of curl, at the preposterous hour he has chosen for his serenade. In the same spirit London may observe that it is possible a fleet from Toulon may be examining the charts of the Thames anent the Trafalgar and the Ship; and an army of long militia-men from the Green Mountains may be en route for Pall-mall via Liverpool (though we don't much believe in the probability of either event); but those are no reasons why we should be poisoned *d'avance*. The state of the River Thames for the last fortnight has been loathsome. The journals are full of letters from voyagers, inhabitants, and visitors, complaining that they and their friends have been sickened by the offensive odours from the stream. Despite the heat, with the glass at 90 deg., windows that "give" upon the Thames are kept closed; and, as the smell rushes up the streets that lead from the river to the Strand, passers-by utter maledictions on the Government, the City authorities, the Central Board, and all who can or are supposed to be able to interfere. The Lord Mayor is besieged in court, and made to smell the water in bottles; and his Lordship turns white, and desires the applicants to go to the new Court of Conservancy. The dock companies are accused of fouling the river, and people ask why a summary order cannot be made compelling the sluices to be kept shut until the proper period of the tide; and whether Louis Napoleon would allow his subjects' lives to be thus played with? The state of the stream is utterly disgraceful; and the fact that a great ditch of poison is allowed to crawl, day by day and night by night, through the grandest city in the world, while the "authorities" are cackling and squabbling about a score of matters of comparatively no consequence, is a mocking answer to the vaunts of the march of intellect. The angry contempt, moreover, which is everywhere expressed for the garrulous and foolish Central Board, which has stopped all effort to improve the Thames, on a pettifoggish, "parochial" plea of expense, is rising to an indignation of which Lord John Manners may hear more.

Loyalty must feel happy that our Sovereign has been for some days out of the way of the pestilential breezes. The Queen has been engaged in one of the most interesting visits she has ever made—namely, in inaugurating the beautiful park and noble hall which the working classes of Birmingham have secured for themselves and their children. The Queen's impromptu speech to a knot of workmen who were desired to come to her and hear from her own lips what she thought of their work will long be remembered by the hearers. And perhaps one of the most remarkable incidents of the inauguration was the gathering of 47,000 Sunday-school children, who sang a hymn to their Sovereign, at which—and no wonder—the Royal lady was much touched.

The Emperor of the French has displaced General Espinasse, his military Home Minister, and turned him into the Senate, with the annuity of 30,000 francs, for having done more mischief to his master's interests than any less rampant blunderer could have done. He is succeeded by M. Delangle, who is a lawyer. The only matter of interest in the journals (of course we except the allegation that France is not arming) is the logical announcement that the authorities consider that M. de Pène wrote a very objectionable article, for which he was served right by M. Hyène, who did not know that he was wounding him a second time. So that matter is closed.

Congress has settled that the Principalities did not know what was good for them when they desired a union and a King, and it has been finally decided—by Austria, Turkey, Prussia, and England, against France, Russia, and Sardinia—that the provinces shall remain separate. Turkey has thus succeeded in preserving her "integrity." But the Pacha with three tails who governs Candia has trouble on his hands, in consequence of a rising of the Greeks in the island—no new thing there. The richly-endowed, but unfortunate, island deserves the compassion of Europe. Its population has dwindled away under Turkish misgovernment, and exaction and oppression are largely practised. It is not wonderful that the Cretans, hearing of the prosperity of their compatriots in Greece, are easily instigated by intrigue to rise against their masters, and to ask to be transferred. (as they were in 1830) to a more beneficent ruler. However, there is no hope for them just now—artillery being an argument in the hands of their Sovereign.

Lord Malmesbury has certainly managed the affair between us and the King of Naples with spirit and discretion, and with complete success. Our engineers receive £3000 in compensation for the hardships to which they have been subjected, so the *civies Romani* fare better under the care of the Conservative Minister than under that of the inventor of that well-sounding name. Moreover, the King hastens to deliver up the *Cagliari* and her crew to England. This result, when made known over the Continent, will do something towards restoring a little of the old English prestige which we have so industriously laboured—with the aid of friends and neighbours—to destroy.

In Parliament the week has not been exciting. The novel case of a bankrupt member has been presented, and Mr. Townsend, of Greenwich, has been pronounced incompetent to take part in the legislation, and the votes he has given since his bankruptcy have been annulled. This sounds a small matter, and yet, had one vote been subtracted from the majority on the Edinburgh Ministers' Bill on Wednesday, the House of Commons would have been saved the amount of inconsistency which will be found in its having abolished the Church-rate in England and refused to abolish it in Scotland.

The organ nuisance has been again before the magisterial bench; but there is little inducement for a man who has any business of his own to postpone it for the sake of delivering his neighbours from annoyance. The magistrates, with scarcely an exception, exercise the most suave lenity towards the vagabond minstrels, who are sent off with a trifling fine, the amount of which they immediately proceed to wring out of new victims as hush-money, just as the rascally tradesmen who cheat the poor with false weights make up the trumpety fine by a Saturday evening of renewed cheating. If a boy knocks a tip-cat into your face, or frightens your horse with a horn, or trips you up with a hoop, the police confiscate the article. If the magistrate would confiscate the organ, the work would be done; but our servile reverence for a bit of property allows us to seize the hoop while we spare the greater nuisance.

**MAILS FOR THE MADRAS AND LOWER BENGAL PRESIDENCIES VIA SOUTHAMPTON.**—The Director-General of the Post Offices in India having specially called attention to the difficulty which attends the conveyance from Bombay to Calcutta of the heavy portion of the correspondence for the East Indies forwarded from this country via Southampton and Bombay, and having represented that, in consequence of these obstacles, the correspondence would frequently reach its destination earlier if it were forwarded by the succeeding mail-packet on the line between Suez and Calcutta, letters and newspapers for the Madras and Lower Bengal Presidencies, addressed via Southampton or prepaid at the rate chargeable for that route, will not in future be forwarded via Bombay, but will always be sent in the mails made up for transmission by the Calcutta packet on the 4th and 20th of each month.

the people is to be found an Act to register and retain the services of 30,000 seamen by a fee of 40s. a year to each one; and by half-pay the services of officers are now secured. Under Anne, however, this exceptional and beneficial Act was repealed, and, though the property of the shipowner was from that time generally held sacred, the seamen wanted for the Navy were seized by press-gangs wherever they could be found. In the olden times this practice was not at variance with general habits, and it occasioned neither peculiar complaint nor resistance. But, as society extended and improved, the subjecting the seamen exclusively to such an old barbarity occasioned many heartrending wrongs. It was partial domestic man-stealing of the most abominable description. Novels, pamphlets, criminal records, proceedings in Parliament, and public journals all through the eighteenth century, testify to the brutality exercised on the seamen, and to the injury thus inflicted on the country by driving them to desertion, mutiny, and resistance. After the United States became independent, seamen flocked thither; and, at the beginning of this century, it was estimated that 16,000 men, when we most wanted them, were serving in American ships. In attempting to recover them by searching such ships, our naval officers frequently violated the rights of the Americans, which occasioned the war of 1812, and carried the old practice of impressment to a climax of absurdity and injury. It then became apparent to all that it was utterly unsuited to our present condition, and from 1816 it has been in abeyance. This brief sketch of a very remarkable feature in our social history shows that the conduct of the State must conform to the progress of society, and, failing to do that, a practice which was not unreasonable under the Edwards became morosely unjust and actually ruinous under the Georges.

From this statement we may infer that to find the best means of manning the Navy the Commission must disregard old practices, and must look especially to the present condition of society and the opinion of the seamen. At several periods since 1816 the State felt a difficulty in procuring their services, and has instituted inquiries similar to the present. It has adopted, too, a great number of measures, all of a petty, inconclusive character, intending to make the naval service acceptable to the seamen. From never attending to the principle now pointed out, it has been amazingly unsuccessful; and, after several months' exertions, offering large bounties, &c., has been unable to man two line-of-battle ships. Now we have another Commission, and, to prevent it being in like manner a failure, the men whose services the State wants, and can only get by voluntary means, must be first considered. The very essence of "the best means of manning the Navy" in this age of competition is to bid adequately for the services of the seamen. Whatever be the worth of their labour in the market, the State must pay the full price for it, as it pays for hemp and timber. No possible pretext for not doing this can be tolerated. If the State cannot pay for the services of the seamen, it can no more have them than it can have the property of the merchant. To obtain voluntary service, it must begin by making a fair bargain, the terms of which cannot be stipulated beforehand, nor by one party. The State may offer a provision for life if maimed, increased pay for increased efficiency, service for a limited period, and then a retaining fee. All these are matters of detail: the principle is a fair *quid pro quo*. Into this enters the agreeableness or otherwise of the service; and if arrogant professional men will persist in maintaining an odious system of traditional tyranny, now at variance with all the usages of society, it may be doubted whether any money will purchase volunteers enough. All the remnants of the old barbarity, then, must be swept away. Our ships must cease to be prisons, and soldiers and officers must no longer be degraded into gaolers. The vain and incorrect boast that a cabin-boy may become an Admiral must be made a reality. One of the lingering consequences of impressment is the maintenance of a perfect distinction of ranks between the officers and the men. In no other part of society—in no other service—is a line distinctly drawn, and a man told that, be and do what he may, he shall not rise, because he is not one of a favoured class, to the top of his profession. In the Navy there are still two distinct castes; and, till it be in this respect identified with civil society, the "best means of manning" it will not be devised. From the character of the members constituting the Commission, we are much afraid, however, that, like all its predecessors, it will prove a costly failure.

## THE COURT.

The Queen has had an opportunity of testing the loyal affection of her subjects in the heart of the midland counties during the past week. The Court left town on Monday afternoon, and arrived the same evening at Stoneleigh Abbey, the seat of Lord Leigh, Lord Lieutenant of the county of Warwick, where her Majesty passed the night. On Tuesday the Queen went to Birmingham, and, after receiving a loyal address from the Corporation in the Townhall, proceeded to Aston Park, the opening of which as a "park for the people" was inaugurated by her Majesty.

The Court passed Tuesday night at Stoneleigh, and on the following morning drove to Warwick Castle, where her Majesty partook of luncheon with the Earl and Countess of Warwick. The Queen and Prince Consort, on leaving the castle, drove through the town of Leamington, and travelled by a special train on the Great Western Railway to Paddington, whence her Majesty was escorted to Buckingham Palace by a detachment of the 11th Hussars. Mr. Secretary Walpole accompanied her Majesty throughout her tour.

On Thursday the King of the Belgians arrived at Buckingham Palace on a visit to the Queen and the Prince Consort.

On Friday her Majesty gave a State Concert, at which a numerous party of the leading aristocracy were present.

At the levee held by her Majesty on Friday se'nnight Dr. William Rae, C.B., Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets, was presented to the Queen, when her Majesty was graciously pleased to confer the honour of knighthood upon him. Mr. James Prior, Deputy-Inspector of Hospitals, Royal Navy, was also presented, and received from the Queen the honour of knighthood.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent visited the Princess Alice and the younger Royal children on Tuesday at Buckingham Palace. Her Royal Highness honoured the performance of the Italian Opera with her presence in the evening.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, accompanied by the Honorary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and the Princess Mary, honoured Cremorne Gardens with a visit on Tuesday evening.

The Countess Platen, wife of his Excellency the Swedish Minister at this Court, has left town for Sweden, for a few months.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Breadalbane have left town for Carlisle.

A marriage is about to take place between Lady Emily Somerset, sister of the Duke of Beaufort, and Mr. Walsh, eldest son of Sir John Walsh, Bart., B.P., and Lady Jane Walsh. A marriage is also arranged to take place between Mr. Nelson Ryecroft, eldest son of Sir Richard Ryecroft, Bart., of Mansdown Park, Hants, and Miss Ogilvy, eldest daughter of Sir John Ogilvy, Bart., M.P., of Inverquhar.



## THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM



BIRMINGHAM · 1858.



## THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.— OPENING OF ASTON HALL AND PARK.

THE visits of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria do not result in mere formal official recognitions and frigid courtesies between the Monarch and the local authorities; the Sovereign and the people are brought into direct communion, thus strengthening the old ties and forming new and stronger ones of loyalty and mutual attachment. The throne of our Queen is based, if ever throne was, upon the affections of her subjects; her Majesty not only rules over a great nation, she reigns in the hearts of her people; and this proud privilege is owing to her ready acquiescence in their desires, and to her gracious affability in the discharge of her self-imposed duties. In the Royal visit to Birmingham, on Tuesday, her Majesty realised the long-cherished wishes of the people of Birmingham; and the purpose of that visit—the opening of a People's Hall and Park—must have added fervour to the loyalty and devotion with which our Queen was hailed. Indeed, her Majesty's entry into this populous manufacturing town was under circumstances which invested the ceremony with a degree of varied interest, splendour, and animation never exceeded, and the remembrance of which will long live in the memory of all who witnessed it.

### DEPARTURE OF THE ROYAL CORTEGE FROM LONDON.

Her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness the Prince Consort left Buckingham Palace on Monday afternoon. The Queen and Prince were attended by the Duchess of Atholl, Lady in Waiting; the Hon. Horatia Stopford, Maid of Honour in Waiting; Earl Dalmeida, Lord Chamberlain; the Marquis of Abercorn, Groom of the Stole to his Royal Highness; Colonel the Hon. Sir Charles Phipps, Major-General Bouverie, and Colonel F. H. Seymour.

Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were conducted to their carriage by the Marquis of Exeter, the Duke of Beaufort, Viscount Newport, Lord Byron, Lord George Lennox, Mr. R. Ormsby-Gore, and Major-General Wyld.

The Royal party quitted the Palace at twenty minutes before three o'clock, in three of the Queen's carriages, and were escorted by a detachment of light dragoons to the Euston-square terminus of the London and North Western Railway.

Mr. Secretary Walpole met the Queen at the railway station, and attended her Majesty on her journey.

### ARRIVAL AT COVENTRY.

The Royal train, consisting of seven carriages, left the station at Euston-square at three o'clock, and, stopping only at Blithley for a few minutes, arrived at Coventry at half-past five, the hour indicated in the time-table. There an immense concourse of the citizens had stood for hours, exposed to the glare of a burning sun, to catch a sight of the Queen. The station was profusely decorated with banners and evergreens, and the platform spread with crimson cloth. As the cortege entered the station a Royal salute was fired from a battery sent expressly from Weedon for the occasion, the city bells were rung, and the crowd raised an enthusiastic cheer. Lord Leigh, and Lieutenant-General Sir Harry Smith, in command of the midland district, received her Majesty as she alighted from the carriage. The Marquis of Chandos, chairman, and Captain Huish, general manager of the London and North-Western Railway, with several of the directors, accompanied the train conveying the Royal party, which was driven by Mr. J. E. McConnell, superintendent of the locomotive department; Lord Alfred Paget and the Marquis of Stafford occupying places on the engine. A guard of honour, composed of 100 men of the 22nd Foot, under the command of Major Sir George Robinson, Captain Monk, Lieutenant Robin, and Lieutenant Winthrop, was posted along the front of the platform; and a squadron of the 15th Hussars, at present quartered in Coventry, under the command of Captain Stuart, lined the ground leading from the station to the Stoneleigh-road. The Mayor and Town Council of Coventry were in attendance to present an address to the Queen, accompanied by their sword and mace bearers, who wore their ancient civic costume, which was at once quaint and picturesque. The hat of the swordbearer, which was of crimson velvet, with a most umbrageous brim, and profusely ornamented with gold, created quite a sensation among the strangers on the platform previous to the arrival of the Queen.

As the Queen was about to enter the station, the Mayor, in the name of the Corporation, presented an address, in which they stated that all the female Sovereigns of England had honoured the city of Coventry with their presence.

### VISIT TO STONELEIGH ABBEY.

This ceremony over, the Royal party entered their carriages and proceeded at ordinary travelling pace to Stoneleigh Abbey, between six and seven miles distant, taking the road through Stichall and Bazington, the Stoneleigh troop of Warwickshire Yeomanry Cavalry, under the command of the Hon. Captain E. C. Leigh, forming the escort. As her Majesty was leaving the station a large choir, accompanied by some 8000 school children, sang the National Anthem, and the people cheered her vociferously.

Stoneleigh Abbey is situated in a spot of peculiar beauty, about three miles from Kenilworth, on a sloping bank of the Avon. The more ancient part of this stately pile, forming three sides of a square, was built in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, upon the site of the old abbey; but of the original edifice little now remains except the groined arches below the present building and the venerable gatehouse, dating as far back as the fourteenth century. It is surrounded by an extensive park adorned with a profusion of venerable oaks and abounding with deer.

On arriving at Stoneleigh the Royal party were conducted to a magnificent suite of apartments appropriated to their use, upon the arrangement and embellishment of which Lord Leigh had called into requisition all the resources of decorative art. In our last week's impression we gave the details of these tasteful decorations, which were devised and executed by the Messrs. Moxon, of Brook-street, decorators to her Majesty. In the evening the front of the old abbey and the portion of the mansion-house beyond were splendidly illuminated, and a grand harquet was given, at which, in addition to her Majesty and the Prince Consort, and the members of their suite, several of the neighbouring nobility and gentry were present. The band of the 2nd Life Guards was stationed in the park, and played at intervals during the evening.

### HER MAJESTY'S RECEPTION AT BIRMINGHAM.

For months past the visit of the Queen has been looked to by all classes of the people at Birmingham with absorbing interest, and the most elaborate and costly preparations were made to give it éclat. The whole attendant circumstances throughout the day were auspicious. The weather was delightful. The manufacturing operations in the town and neighbourhood were for the most part suspended, the forests of tall chimneys emitted no smoke, and in that respect her Majesty enjoyed the advantage of seeing the great industrial capital of the midland counties under rather an exceptional state of things. For miles and miles round—from the whole of "the black country," from various parts of Staffordshire, Warwick, Coventry, Manchester, Lichfield, Tamworth, and even from the metropolis itself—people came pouring into the town in thousands by excursion trains, and it is estimated that a crowd of not less than 500,000 lined the route traversed by the Royal cortege.

Her Majesty left the Kenilworth station on Tuesday morning shortly after eleven. The train was signalled at Birmingham a few minutes before twelve, and in two minutes after that hour the august party were landed upon the platform of the Birmingham station. Her Majesty's suite consisted chiefly of the personages who accompanied her to Coventry and Stoneleigh. The guard of honour on duty at the station consisted of a detachment of the 36th Regiment of Foot; and a number of the metropolitan and Birmingham police, under the direction of Chief Commissioner Mayne and Mr. Stevens, the chief of the Birmingham force, rendered efficient service in preserving the strictest order.

On the platform to receive her Majesty were Lord Hatherton, Mr. C. Ratcliff, and several of the borough and county magistrates. Among the military officers present were Colonel Hort, of the 36th Regiment; Lieutenant-General Sir Harry Smith, Commandant of the Midland District; Lieutenant-Colonel Shadwell; Colonel Kennedy, of the Royal Artillery Company; Colonel Chwyler, Commander of the Royal Engineers; and Captain Swinny. The Mayor of Birmingham appeared for the first time in official robes, and was attended by Mr. Stedbridge, the Town Clerk, and the Rev. J. Spooner, his Chaplain. A Royal salute, fired by the Royal Artillery, under the command of Colonel Kennedy, from the waste ground near the old station of the London and North Western Company in Curzon-street, announced the arrival of her Majesty.

The distance from the station to Aston Hall is about three miles, and the prescribed route lay through many of the best as well as some of the poorer streets. The Queen and the Prince Consort having entered their carriage, and the Royal cortege having been formed, its first destination was the Townhall, where her Majesty was to receive an address from the Corporation. Before leaving the platform her Majesty was presented with a beautiful bouquet by the wife of the Mayor.

On emerging from the station under an escort of the 10th Hussars, the cortege entered Queen-street, a half-finished thoroughfare, where, the ground being unfavourable for a good view of the pageant, little preparation had been made to give her Majesty a suitable reception. Matters, however, speedily changed, and as the Queen approached the Market hall she was greeted with vehement cheering from the crowd.

Proceeding then at a slow pace along Worcester-street, High-street, Bull-street, Colmore row, all of which were tastefully festooned with flowers and evergreens, and where her Majesty received a most enthusiastic welcome from the crowds assembled along the footpaths and at the open windows, the cortege arrived at the Townhall, conspicuous above every other subject of note along the route for the costly splendour of its interior and exterior decoration, its imposing architectural proportions, and as being the point at which the interest of the ceremonial may be said to have culminated. Ordinarily a subject of pride to the resident population and of admiration to strangers, art had been called in to aid on this occasion in enhancing its intrinsic effect. In the centre of an arcade in Paradise-street, the spot at which the Queen alighted, an elegant canopy of purple velvet was erected, surmounted by regal insignia, and a profusion of banners. Vases of natural flowers tastefully arranged, elegant devices in evergreens, and words of welcome challenged admiration and sympathy at every point of entrance to the building. On one side of the vestibule, after entering the edifice, a reception-room furnished with consummate taste was specially set apart for her Majesty, and a similar apartment was devoted to the accommodation of the Prince Consort at the opposite side. Passing into the interior of the hall, the first object that caught the eye was a magnificent dais immediately beneath the organ gallery, approached by steps with an elliptical front, over which was a canopy of purple velvet. Three chairs stood upon the dais, the one intended for her Majesty being covered with gold embroidery on a rich crimson ground. The floor of the hall was laid with a carpet identical in pattern and colour with that of the House of Lords; and above this, up the centre, and extending over the dais, was a rich velvet pile curvet, of a crimson and maroon colour. A profusion of exotic plants of great beauty extended from the floor to the orchestra, and from the panels of the enamelled walls groups of flowers were gracefully suspended at intervals. On the floor and in the galleries upwards of three thousand of the principal inhabitants were present, most of them ladies. Before her Majesty entered the hall the official personages present took up the several positions assigned to them. The Aldermen and Town Council arranged themselves on the floor immediately in front of the throne, and on each side; in their immediate vicinity were the Earl of Dartmouth, Lord Ward, Lord Calthorpe, Mr. Scholfield, M.P., and Mr. Newdegate, M.P. At half-past twelve o'clock the Queen entered the hall, accompanied by the Prince Consort, and ascended the dais, attended by the Duchess of Atholl, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Hon. Horatia Stopford, Mr. Secretary Walpole (who wore the Ministerial uniform); the Earl Delawar, Lord Chamberlain; General Bouverie, the Marquis of Abercorn, Colonel Phipps, and Colonel Seymour. Her Majesty wore a grey silk dress with checked frouces, a white bonnet, and lace scarf.

Lord Leigh, the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, occupied a position immediately on the right of the dais. As her Majesty entered the building the assembly rose in a body, and the choir stationed in the gallery sang the National Anthem. This over, Mr. Standbridge, the Town Clerk, presented the address of the Corporation to her Majesty.

The Queen made the following gracious reply:—

I have received with pleasure your loyal and dutiful address, expressing your sincere and devoted affection to my person and my throne.

It is most gratifying to me to have the opportunity of visiting this ancient and enterprising town, the centre of so much of our manufacturing industry; and I trust you may long remain in the full enjoyment of that liberty and security without which even industry itself must fail to reap its appropriate reward.

I desire you will convey to the vast community which you represent my sincere thanks for their cordial welcome, assuring them at the same time of the pleasure I have derived from witnessing the great and increasing prosperity of Birmingham and its neighbourhood.

The Town Clerk then read the address of the Corporation to the Prince Consort; and his Royal Highness replied, thanking "the Corporation for their kind and flattering address."

Her Majesty was then pleased to confer the honour of knighthood on Mr. Ratcliff, the Mayor.

### THE ROYAL PROGRESS TO ASTON HALL.

Her Majesty left the hall with the Prince Consort, attended as before, and the Royal party started on its way to Aston Park, a distance of about two miles and a half, under a cavalry escort composed of a detachment of the 10th Hussars.

As the cortege entered New-street, which is by far the finest in the town, the spectacle was extremely animated and picturesque. Crowds of well-dressed people were congregated at all the windows, on the terraces and balconies, and on platforms erected for the occasion. From beginning to end one moving mass of bright-coloured banners fluttered in the breeze. Evergreens and festoons of natural flowers were suspended across the thoroughfare with its most striking effect. Thousands of people were penned in densely-compacted masses behind the street barriers, and as the cavalcade moved slowly along her Majesty was greeted with one continued and enthusiastic ovation.

Passing on its way through Dale-end, Stafford-street, and Aston-street, the same enthusiasm being everywhere shown, the Royal cortege arrived at Gosta-green, the centre of the locality in which the gun trade is carried on. There the operative gunmakers had erected a stately triumphal arch nearly 50 feet in height and as many in width, embodying an artistic display of small arms, consisting of groups of swords, sabres, pistols, bayonets, and bright ramrods, formed in stars and various other devices. The arch was surmounted by the Royal arms brilliantly painted, and a grand military trophy composed of the flags of all nations. The words "Welcome to our Queen" were displayed high over all, and from the centre of the arch a magnificent star descended, some fifteen feet in diameter, composed of muskets and fixed bayonets. The total value of the arms used in this device was estimated at £6000; and the sum expended upon it and in decorating other parts of that particular locality was about £600, the greater part of which was subscribed by the operative gunmakers. This arch, designed by Mr. W. Scott, jun., of Bath-street, was erected under the management of Mr. W. Cleeke, of Caroline street, Birmingham.

On leaving Gosta green, and entering the Aston-road, a very touching spectacle attracted her Majesty's notice. Some 40,000 little children of both sexes, belonging to the schools of all denominations of Christians and also to those of the Jews, lined the road for some distance on both sides, and as her Majesty passed they sang in a low, gentle, manner:—

Now pray we for our country  
That England long may be  
The holy and the happy,  
And the gloriously free.

The Royal cavalcade proceeded along the Aston-road to the boundary of the borough, and from that point was conducted by the Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff of Warwickshire, attended by a numerous body of county magistrates, to Aston. The route is along the Lichfield road. From the Lichfield road the procession moved along the Park-road to a triumphal arch erected at the entrance to the Grand Avenue. This length of ground—about three-quarters of a mile—was one continuous line of platforms, most of which were handsomely decorated with flags and evergreens. At every point her Majesty was enthusiastically welcomed. Entering through this arch, the Royal party had at one glance a full view of Aston Hall, built upon rising ground, approached by an avenue of elms and Spanish chestnuts, scarcely surpassed in England, and surrounded by a landscape of once picturesque and extensive.

The approaches to the old mansion have recently been considerably improved, new roads have been made, galleries capable of holding 4300 persons erected in the grand avenue, and apparently every imaginable means adopted for securing the comfort and safety of spectators and doing honour to her Majesty.

The view of the hall from the south side is very beautiful. The most prominent feature is the projection in the centre, containing the windows of the chapel, and the large ones in the great drawing-room. The garden was formerly laid out in serpentine walks. This arrangement has now given way to bold straight alleys, the shrubs having been superceded by a verdant lawn, and the larger trees thus brought into the prominence for which they were originally designed. These

trees comprise a magnificent specimen of the everlasting oak, some hollies, and a row of solemn yews. Beyond the garden there is a noble avenue of sycamore-trees rather more than 300 yards in extent.

In the centre of the west front is the glass edifice erected by the Park Company, intended for the exhibition of Birmingham manufactures, which already contains some of the choicest specimens of Birmingham productions, both in art and manufacture.

### INAUGURATION OF THE HALL AND PARK.

On arriving at the entrance to Aston Hall her Majesty was received by Sir Francis Scott, Bart., chairman of the interim managers of the park, and conducted, with the Prince Consort, to the dining-room, attended by their suite, where luncheon was served. Subsequently the Royal party inspected some of the more interesting objects of art and antiquity contained within the building, and then repaired to the great gallery, where Sir Francis Scott presented an address to her Majesty, to which she read the following gracious reply:—

I sincerely thank you for your loyal assurances of devoted attachment to my throne and person. The improvement of the moral, intellectual, and social condition of my people will always command my earnest attention; and in opening this hall and park to-day I rejoice to have another opportunity of promoting their comfort and innocent recreation.

The interim managers were then severally presented. The presentation over, her Majesty was conducted to a newly-erected balcony, from which was afforded a grand and picturesque view of the park and surrounding country. Upon her Majesty's appearance, the band of the Grenadier Guards, together with that of the 2nd Life Guards, which moved from the front, struck up the National Anthem, which was taken up by the various other bands and the united voices of the people. Here took place the grand and interesting ceremony to perform which her Majesty condescended to visit the midland metropolis, to inaugurate a splendid park for the people, and afford the inhabitants of Birmingham—the heart of England—an opportunity of testifying their unbounded affection and loyalty towards her throne and person. Standing at the front of the elegantly-decorated balcony, and surrounded by her suite and nobility, and greeted by the acclamation of the multitude, the Queen was graciously pleased to inaugurate the park, directing Sir Francis Scott, in her name, to declare Aston Hall and Park open to the people. The Royal party were then reconducted through the gallery, and afterwards visited a suite of rooms devoted to the exhibition of works of art.

Returning into the hall, the Queen and the Prince Consort, attended as before, took their departure from the hall at half-past three o'clock for Stoneleigh Abbey. The Royal party travelled by a special train, which they entered at a temporary station at Aston, on the London and North-Western Railway, erected expressly for her Majesty's accommodation, to save her the necessity of returning through the town of Birmingham.

The Mayor of Birmingham, now Sir John Ratcliff, entertained about 500 of the principal inhabitants at a banquet at the Townhall in the evening.

### RETURN OF THE ROYAL CORTEGE TO STONELEIGH ABBEY.

On Tuesday evening, after her Majesty left Aston Hall, she made a detour from the railway station at Kenilworth, on her way to Stoneleigh, through the picturesque ruins of the Castle of Kenilworth—a glimpse of which she caught long years since, whilst yet a child.

The dinner party at Stoneleigh consisted of the Earl of Warwick, Lady Mary Fielding and Captain Fielding, the Hon. and Rev. H. Cholmondeley, the Marquis of Chandos, and Viscount Hood. The addition to these were the nobility and gentry staying in the house. A large party of the nobility and gentry resident in the neighbourhood received invitations for the evening. Portions of the abbey and domain were brilliantly illuminated. On Wednesday morning her Majesty went over the grounds at Stoneleigh, remarkable for their many natural beauties.

### ARRIVAL AT LEAMINGTON.

At one o'clock the Queen took leave of her noble host and hostess, and departed for Warwick Castle. Through what a fairy-like land she passed between Stoneleigh and Leamington—a fine, undulating country, richly timbered, and highly-cultivated land fattening into a harvest.

At forty-five minutes past one the Royal cortege reached the outskirts of Leamington—the Royal Spa, as the inhabitants delight to call it.

The inhabitants of Leamington had prepared themselves to give to her Majesty a hearty reception; a large sum of money was subscribed for suitable decorations; and the members of the ruling body corporate, the "local board of commissioners," formed a squadron of horse as a body guard to the Sovereign from one end to the other of the parish boundary. The people of Leamington were not less zealous in this respect than their rulers. There were house decorations on an extensive scale. These mostly took a floral turn, and pretty wreaths and garlands, with thousands of bright flowers interspersed, met the eye. Those who are familiar with the Parks at Leamington may form an idea how picturesque and beautiful it would look with such a form of decoration, the floral display being interspersed with hundreds of flags and banners; and clusters of female beauty at every window, forming one grand parterre of exceeding loveliness.

Beneath a well-executed and elaborately-decorated arch at the Kenilworth New-road her Majesty's carriage passed, and thence proceeded, amidst the heartiest demonstrations, down the Parade. "God bless your Majesty!" shouted the people all along the line as she rode on; and the Queen, looking well, and greatly pleased, smiled, and acknowledged the salutations of her subjects frequently.

Through the town and on the road to Warwick Castle there were exuberant and genuine demonstrations of enthusiasm.

### VISIT TO WARWICK CASTLE.

Along the pleasant and neatly-trimmed old road leading from Leamington to Warwick Castle the Royal carriage went on its way, accompanied by a military escort composed of Lord Leigh's troop of yeomanry.

The Queen was manifestly much delighted with the superb view of Warwick Castle obtained from the bridge which spans the Avon, whose pellucid stream rolls at the base of the grand old pile, the habitable apartments of which are more than 200 feet above the river bed.

Next to a view of the castle from the bridge by moonlight, nothing could have been finer than the view which her Majesty obtained of the castle on Wednesday. The sun shone forth in midsummer brilliancy, without a cloud so large as a man's hand in view, and amidst the cheers of her faithful subjects Queen Victoria drew up in front of the venerable pile, the founder of the original structure upon the site on which it stands being the great Alfred's daughter.

Shortly after two o'clock the castle gates were swung open, and the Queen's carriage entered; at the moment the Sovereign entered the Royal standard floated from the far-famed Caesar's Tower.

The preparations made by the Earl of Warwick for the reception were on an extensive scale. In the superb fabric itself, however, centres all interest. In the inspection of the colossal grandeur of a bygone day contained within the castle walls her Majesty must have found many features of special interest, and much for contemplation as well as observation. The Queen lunched at the castle; a select party of the nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood being invited.

Her Majesty left the castle at a quarter before five o'clock, and passed through the town of Warwick (handsomely decorated), receiving another ovation. A large concourse of persons were assembled at the Warwick station. As her Majesty's carriage drew up to the platform she was greeted with many rounds of cheers. As her Majesty was alighting, the Mayor stepped forward and handed to her the Corporation address, which was graciously received. The gentlemen who compose the Corporation of Warwick appeared before their Sovereign attired in the costume of private gentlemen, a dark blue scarf being the only badge to mark them out as the elect of their fellow-citizens.

The Queen entered the Royal saloon immediately; but before doing so she shook hands with Lord Warwick and with Lord and Lady Leigh. To both she expressed her great pleasure at the reception she had experienced.

### HER MAJESTY'S RETURN TO LONDON.

At fifteen minutes past five Queen left for London, amidst enthusiastic cheering as the train ran out of the station.

On her Majesty's arrival at the Farringdon terminus the Royal party proceeded to Buckingham Palace, escorted by a detachment of the 11th Hussars. The Queen and Prince arrived at the Palace at twenty minutes before eight o'clock.

This terminated her Majesty's visit to Warwickshire. Her three-days' tour was one grand pageant of a character to be noteworthy in the historic annals of her glorious reign.



## MUSIC.

WE observe with regret that the great star of HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, Mademoiselle Titiens, is about to disappear from our horizon. Having failed to obtain a prolongation of her leave of absence from the Imperial Theatre of Vienna, she is obliged to take leave of the English public on Saturday next, the 26th of this month. Happily, however, we may expect to have her for the whole of next season, and two seasons more; for, we understand, she is engaged by Mr. Lumley for three years. On Thursday she appeared, for the first time in England, in *Lucretia Borgia*, a character eminently suited to her powers as a lyrical tragedian. Next week we shall give some account of her performance.

THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA has reproduced Auber's "Fra Diavolo," which was brought out in an Italian dress last year. It was performed on Saturday last, precisely in the same manner as last season, and with similar success—Gardoni being the brigand-hero; Bosio, *Zerlina*; and Ronconi and Marai, *Lord and Lady Alcazar*; Zelger and Tagliacozzo the two comic bandits; and Neri Baraldi the young lover, *Lorenzo*. All the characters were sustained with great spirit, and Auber's brilliant and beautiful music was sung in perfection. In the present poverty of the Italian musical stage it is not only politic, but necessary, to have recourse to the best works of other countries; and there are other works of Auber which, judiciously treated, might, in an Italian garb, be as pleasant and successful as "Fra Diavolo" has been.

The crowds who flock to the CRYSTAL PALACE during the present beautiful weather are increased by the musical attractions of the place. In addition to many occasional performances, there are two regular series of concerts given on alternate Fridays, the one series being designated as the "Crystal Palace Concerts," the other as the "Royal Italian Opera Concerts." The Crystal Palace Concerts are conducted by Herr Manns, the able musical director of the establishment, and are generally of a very high order. The regular orchestra is strengthened by the addition of a number of leading performers; and the most favourite singers and instrumentalists of the day are engaged. Great judgment, moreover, is shown in the selection of the music, which is full of agreeable variety. The Royal Italian Opera Concerts are conducted by Mr. Costa; the performers are (with very few exceptions) members of the Covent Garden company; and the music consists almost exclusively of airs, duets, &c., taken from favourite Covent Garden operas. Hence these concerts are exceedingly attractive to those who, not being in the habit of going to Italian operas, are glad to have the opportunity of hearing Gritti, Bosio, Mario, Gardoni, Graziani, and other singers who cannot be heard at any other concerts but these. Thus each series of concerts has its own attraction; but, of the two, the ordinary Crystal Palace Concerts are the more interesting to the educated amateur. That of Saturday last gave entire satisfaction to a numerous and fashionable audience. Berlioz's clever overture to "Waverley," Mendelssohn's admirable scherzo from the overture arranged by himself for full band, and a new overture by Hager, were given in a spirited manner by the orchestra, under the able direction of Herr Manns. Miss Mahlah Homer, a new aspirant for vocal honours, was heard to great advantage in Weber's scena, "Ocean, the mighty monster." She possesses a soprano voice of beautiful quality, and gave proof of a method combining pure vocal training with a broad dramatic style. In Mr. Macfarren's charmingly plaintive ballad, "O weep for England's daughters," Miss Homer was equally successful, being encored. Mr. George Perren gave much pleasure in the popular ballad "Who shall be fairest?" and also in "The Maid of Argyll," by Nelson. Mr. G. Collins on the violoncello, and Mr. Svendsen on the flute, were much applauded in their respective solos.

THE NEW PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS terminated for the season on Monday evening, when the last of the series was given at St. James's Hall. It was rather a weak concert, the scheme having been deranged by the withdrawal, at the eleventh hour, of a cantata, entitled "Comala," which would have occupied a considerable portion of the evening. The copyist, it was stated, had failed to complete the necessary copies. We regret this, as Mr. Howard Glover, the author of the piece, is a composer of genius, known by several works of approved merit. Much interest was excited by Miss Arabella Goddard's performance of Dusek's concerto in G minor—one of those fine productions of the old school, the revival of which is one of the best signs of the improving taste of the time. Beethoven's "Sinfonia Eroica," the great orchestral piece of the evening, was well played on the whole, with the exception of the Funeral March, which was a great deal too slow. Joachim played one of Bach's sonatas for the violin solo, and astonished as well as delighted the audience by the marvels of his execution.

Among the multitudinous benefit concerts of the week the most remarkable has been that of the eminent composer and violinist, Herr Janne, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Monday morning. Herr Janne brought forward several of his own works, particularly a quartet for stringed instruments; a concert-stick for two violins, viola, and violoncello, accompanied by the full orchestra; and several movements from a mass. These pieces were admirably performed, Messrs. Joachim, Sainton, and Piaty giving their assistance. The room was full of distinguished musicians and amateurs, by whom these masterly performances were applauded with enthusiasm.

MR. ALLEN IRVING'S MATINEE, which took place at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Tuesday, the 8th, was attended by a large and fashionable audience. He was assisted by several artistes of eminence—Madame Rudersdorff, Messent, and Louisa Vinning; Chatterton, and George Perren. Signor Andreoli was honoured by an encore in a piano solo by Fumagalli; Sims Reeves in the ballet "Come into the garden Maud;" and Mr. Allen Irving in an Italian air, for which he substituted the fine old Scotch ballad, "The Flowers of the Forest," which was admirably calculated to display to advantage his fine barytone voice.

## THE THEATRES.

HAYMARKET.—Miss Reynolds took her benefit on Wednesday, when the house was fashionably attended, and the fair *bénéficiaire* was deservedly applauded. The play selected was "London Assurance," in which Miss Reynolds undertook for the first time the part of *Lady Gay Spanker*, and supported it with great energy, intelligence, and spirit. After the comedy a new farce was produced, entitled "A Striking Widow." The materials are few and simple. A young Lieutenant, represented by Mr. W. Farren, previous to his departure for foreign service, enters into a wager with his companions to kiss the first pretty woman he meets. Miss Reynolds represents the lady so victimised, and Mr. Buckstone her lover, whom the lovely widow pledges to knock down the offender. Notwithstanding that the champion of the injured fair stimulates his courage with copious draughts of brandy, he fails in extorting the desired satisfaction; whereupon the lady disguises herself in a hat and cloak, and revenges herself by fetching the delinquent a box on the ear. A general confusion ensues, but the lady ultimately relents, and extends her pardon to the transgressor. The piece, though extremely slight, was successful.

ST. JAMES'S.—On Wednesday Madame Ristori commenced her new engagement at this theatre, in the character of *Lady Macbeth*, which she supported with her usual power and effect. Her tragic powers appear to be undiminished, and we may trust that they will be exhibited in full vigour. Her repertoire has been greatly enlarged, including the late Rachel's leading characters. Madame Ristori has now exclusive possession of the foreign dramatic stage, and, without doubt, will justify her reputation, now that she can command success as well as deserve it.

STRAND.—This theatre, on Saturday, introduced a revival, "The Vicer of Wakefield," by Mr. Tom Taylor, a drama in three acts, which, under Mr. Farren's management, had a considerable run. The plot is, in fact, neatly conducted, and the characters are easily acted. On the present occasion it is exceedingly well cast. *The Olivia* (Miss Swanborough) is touching and characteristic; and *Moses* of Mr. Charles is very well impersonated indeed. Mr. Emery and Mrs. Selby as *Parson Primrose* and his lady looked the characters satisfactorily, and acted with laudable care. Mrs. Leigh Murray performed her original character of the *Honourable Carolina Wilhelmina Amelia Skaggs*, and certainly makes of it an important part. The gipsy scene was admirable. "Squire Thornhill" was skillfully supported by Mr. Belford; and Mr. Kinloch, as *Burchill*, acted with gentlemanly ease and propriety. *Ephraim Jerkinson* requires a variety of powers, and these were found united in Mr. Charles Young, who will much increase his well-deserved reputation by the assumption. Altogether, we are much pleased with this reproduction.

PRINCESS'.—Saturday, 12th June, was made memorable at this theatre by the production of Shakspeare's "Merchant of Venice," with truly historical illustrations, and such scenic contrivances as for the first time on the stage brought the real and living picture of "the Sea-Cybele, the Ocean-Babel," before the eyes of the spectator. Mr. Kean's other revivals, magnificent as they were, have been less noteworthy than this, which, at the same time, places on the boards an apparent novel performance and restores to Shakspeare many honours of which he has been usually deprived. Passages which adapters have generally omitted find their proper places in Mr. Kean's judicious version, and justify, as all such restorations ever do, the judgment as well as the genius of the poet. We allude to the persons of the Princes of Morocco and of Aragon, who are shown selecting the gold and silver caskets, in two previous scenes, before Bassanio's choice of the unpresuming lead. Stage adapters, in general, have regarded the two previous scenes as anticipating the interest, and have amalgamated the speeches of the Princes with Bassanio's soliloquy, thus promoting a scenic surprise where Shakspeare, according to his own favourite method, had most carefully proceeded on the principle of dramatic expectation. The working of this principle in the present instance is most satisfactory. It furnishes a most graceful conclusion to the first act, and an artistic introduction to the third. It also makes the spectator acquainted with the contents of the three caskets, and thus fully satisfies his mind on all the details of the main business of the drama, besides reinstating it in the importance which it originally held in the poet's idea. The affair of *Shylock* is properly treated as an episode, and chiefly serves to bring out the portrait of the heroine, who is, as it were, the presiding divinity of the action:—

Her name is Portia; nothing undervalued  
To Cato's daughter, Brutus' Portia.

She is, indeed, the ideal of woman in the Shakspearean mind. Placed by fortune above temptation, she has grown up into a perception of all that is beautiful in morals and noble in action; she is learned and witty, like most of the noble women of the poet's own age, and conducts herself like a Princess who both by nature and education recognises the pursuit of goodness as the mission of her life. We were glad to witness Mrs. Kean's performance again in this most admirable part; for it was ever a favourite impersonation with us, and one with which our recollections of her early acting is most refreshed. It has lost nothing of its attractiveness, and has gained in its soverer properties. These are, indeed, as needful to the idea of the character as the more maidenly charms of the marriageable heroine—for Portia was, in virtue of her wealth, station, and peculiar destiny, prematurely a woman. All the dialogue attributed to her by the poet marks a precocious development; and without such Bellario's instructions would have availed little in the conduct of the famous case, "Shylock versus Antonio." The new arrangements of the court scene gave to Mrs. Kean some advantages in the delivery of *Balthazar's* speeches, of which, particularly in that regarding "mercy," she was not slow to avail herself.

Among the new scenic arrangements to which we have alluded, there are some that lend extraordinary interest to this revival. To begin with the beginning. In fulfilling his design of presenting "a faithful representation of the picturesque city," Mr. Kean tells us truly that he has exhibited to the traveller or the student, in due succession, "the far-famed place of St. Mark, with its ancient church, the Rialto and its bridge, the canals and gondolas, the historic columns, the Ducal Palace, and the Council Chamber." In opening the play, the manager has filled the scene (that of St. Mark's Place) with a great variety of street-groups. Nobles, citizens, merchants, foreigners, water-carriers, flower-girls, pass over, mingle, separate, and re-pass, as probably they did on the actual site. These are followed by the procession of the Doge, in state, across the square, copied from the print in the British Museum, by Josse Amman, which gives the fact as prevalent in the sixteenth century. From amongst the groups thus indicated, *Antonio*, *Salarino*, and *Salanio* emerge, and begin the dialogue of the play. In the third scene we have the Old Merchants' Exchange on the Rialto Island, with San Jacopo, the most ancient church in Venice, occupying one side of the square. And the fourth—a scene which frequently recurs, and will bear repeated examination—the Saloon of the Caskets in Portia's house at Belmont, which, for architectural beauty and palatial arrangement, excels all similar attempts at stage decoration. We now come to the second act, which is digested into one scene—the exterior of *Shylock's* house, situated at the corner of a bridge, the arch of which is wide enough to admit a gondola, with other bridges in the distance, with the water flowing between, and various effects of light and shade, very skillfully and effectively disposed. Amidst these various objects the action very naturally develops itself. *Launcelot Gobbo* and his master enter from the doorway of the house, *Old Gobbo* totters over the bridge, *Bassanio* and the other gallants come in gondolas and pass under the arch, or hold conversation from the deck with *Gratiano* and others on the beach, and finally *Jessica* accomplishes her flight in a gondola, after having thrown from her casement the casket of duets to her lover while standing on the bridge. It is altogether a scene of enchantment. Taking advantage of the suggestion about masks in the text, Mr. Kean concludes the act with one, and crowds the stage with illuminated gondolas and musical revellers, appropriately accompanied with

the drum,  
And the vile squeaking of the wry-necked fife;

on all which antique pageant and animated spectacle the curtain falls. We now know the nature of the "shallow foppery" which *Shylock* dreaded, and can gather the daily misery of the Hebrew's life in the midst of gaieties to which he and his creed were alike aliens.

Of the remaining acts the Saloon of the Caskets makes the principal scene. There is, indeed, a very nice painting of the Rialto Bridge, and another of the Columns of St. Mark. The Court of Justice, or Hall of the Senators, taken from Fialletti's picture at Hampton Court, is magnificent, and, together with the Foscari Gate of the Ducal Palace, furnishes forth the fourth act with prodigal liberality. The scene in the fifth is the avenue to Portia's house, thus adding to the grandeur of the interior that of the palatial exterior, with garden and fountains, and "banks on which the moonlight sweetly sleeps." All this is "beautiful exceedingly," and fitly closes the enchanting series of scenic pictures.

We have already said that, with all this lavish decoration, we have more of the text of Shakspeare given than in any ordinary representation of the play. Nor were the histrionic illustrations less abundant. Mr. Kean's *Shylock* was replete with energy, fire, fanatical enthusiasm, and natural passion. That marvellous scene in which the Jew laments alternately "his duets and his daughter" was delivered with the due admixture of pathos and comic wit. Shakspeare has himself described it. Never was heard "a passion so confused, so strange, outrageous, and so variable." Mr. Kean realised the mood intended by the poet, and exhibited a complete mastery of his own peculiar art, both mentally and physically. Body and mind are tasked to the utmost in such a scene as this.

The *Bassanio* of Mr. Ryder was a manly piece of acting; and his fine figure told well in the casket scene while he stood meditating which he should select during the interval occupied in singing "Tell me where is fancy bred" by Miss Peole and a chorus of ladies. We have also to mention with commendation Mr. Graham's *Antonio*, whose distress rises to a tragic height as he falls back, with closed eyes, supported by his friends, to receive the deadly stroke, and, when the danger is over, awakens as from a swoon to a new life. Mr. Walter Lacy was as gay and volatile as might be wished in *Gratiano*; and Mr. Ca'hart, in *Lorenzo*, was, as he always is, an ardent lover. Mr. Harley and Mr. Meadows, in the two *Gobbos*, are two "old familiar faces" that speak their own commendation. But the most interesting incident of the evening was the debut of Miss Chapman in *Jessica*. The young lady, somewhat nervous in her first speech, gradually won upon the house by the natural simplicity and "pretty favour" of her style. Her progress may be predicted with certainty. Miss C. Leclercq was quaint and touching in *Nerissa*. For the rest, the parts were adequately filled, and in all cases carefully acted. It only remains to add that the costumes are taken from those in use at the beginning of the seventeenth century, and are chiefly selected from a work published in Venice, in 1590, by Cesare Vecellio, entitled "Dagli Habiti Antichi e Moderni di diverse Parti del Mondo." The scenery has been painted by Mr. Grieve and Mr. Telbin, assisted by Mr. Gordon and others, who have surpassed their former efforts in the more elaborate and picturesque effects. Altogether, the well-known play, both pictorially and histrionically, is interpreted anew, and comes upon the spectator rather with the freshness of an entire novelty than with the mere effect of an illustrated revival. We trust that the heat of the weather will not effect Mr. Kean's interests in regard to it; for a costly production like the present needs the largest amount of public patronage that can be accorded.

## NATIONAL SPORTS.

NOTHING, so far, has happened this week to give the slightest fillip to racing gossip. Birdcatcher has, we believe, been withdrawn from Cawston; and Hobbie Noble, who was bred there, and only left it because Mr. Merry won £3000 on the wretched Palmer's Goldfinder at Warwick, and took an enthusiastic fancy accordingly to have a £6500 Derby nag, supplies his place. Davis is still very feeble at Brighton, and we fear that there is no chance of his ever joining again in that brain-tearing contest which the Ring brings with it. Even men with the icy composure of Lord George and Crockford could not stand it, much less one whose step and eye seemed as restless as a hyana's up to the very moment of starting, and even while the race was run. The late General Anson's effects—curiosities, armour, cigars (as good as any the Duke of Sussex ever had in his palmist smoking days), and rum, &c.—produced wondrous prices at his auction last week. Turfites were not a little eager to secure a relic of their old friend, who, take him as a racing and a hunting man, and a shot combined, could give even Mr. Osbaldeston a stone. Chapple died on Thursday; and thus the last Newmarket jockey of the old school who has been seen at the post during the last seven years may be said to have gone from amongst us, with the exception of Robinson and Sam Mann. The era of the Edwardses was over long before that. "Argus" thus cleverly daguerrotypes "Jenny," as he was familiarly called, in contradistinction to his great contemporary, "Jim" Robinson:—"He was quite one of the old school, ignorant of high collars, satin scarfs, large pins, patent leather boots, and regalia cigars; but he worked like a galley slave, and he could ride his pony sixty and seventy miles a day with his saddle-bags, simply for his 'three' and 'five,' without a murmur. And when he was on your horse your mind was comfortable, for you knew he would never stand more than a tenner on him, and to cause him to do that the horse must have at least a stone in hand. He gave up early, with an enviable character of a first-class and thoroughly English jockey." Dangerous, in 1833, marks the period of his zenith; but his riding showed no decay in 1850, when he virtually retired.

The race meetings for next week are Chelmsford on Tuesday and Wednesday; Rochester, Tenbury, and Abingdon on Thursday and Friday; and Newcastle on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Tuesday the Tyro Stakes has the names of Meg Merrilies (2lb. extra), and Balmamoon, a half-brother to the slowly-recovering Blink Bonny, and a Derby favourite. The North Derby has no likely public name but Longrange. Newcastle will not send a second Lanercost, or a Slashing Harry, or a Van Tromp, as of yore, into the betting for the Doncaster St. Leger, whose prospects look but dreary at present. Alas! the Gold Cup entry, with all its X Y Z, Tomboy, and Beeswing recollections, did not fill last year, and is now a mere 5 sov. handicap, with £50 added!

Before a week was over Mr. Villebois had bought the twenty couple of large entered hounds, and the three couple of unentered, which Mr. Farquharson retained at his sale, and now the Eastbury kennels are desolate. Treadwell does not intend to take a place this summer, but it would be sad indeed to see his name disappear from the huntman list, while he is still two years short of sixty. We have Jim Morgan still killing his foxes, when the "carriion" don't override the scent and drive him to despair, and jumping gate after gate because "my arm isn't strong enough to open them," at the ripe age of seventy-five! Old hunting men are lost in amazement at the price hounds fetch now, though many of them used to give much more for their hunters as a general thing in the Alvanley, Goodricke, and Plymouth era. Looking at four great hunting sales within the last two years and a half, where both horses and hounds were sold, we have the following result:—At Mr. Greaves's, old hounds, 18 guineas a couple, and unentered, 13 guineas; while the horses averaged 100 guineas. At the first Quorn sale the old hounds averaged 25½ guineas, and the horses (many a buyer of which has repented in sackcloth since) 18½ guineas. At Tubney the hound average rose to 29½ guineas for old, and 36 guineas for unentered; while the horses, excluding those bought in, made a trifle above 100 guineas. Lastly, at Eastbury, we have 23 guineas a couple for old hounds, and 12½ guineas for the unentered; while the horses stood at a 90-guinea average. The sale of the old hounds was spoiled by the prejudice which exists against hounds of the size of the big pack, which were principally Asheton Smith draughts; and as Mr. Farquharson has bred but very little, and never kept up a distinctive kennel blood, to be traced, like others, through all the hound-books of England, it is natural enough that the unentered should hardly have justice done them, although they were so strongly crossed with Mr. Foljambe's blood. The top prices for horses at the above sales were at the Quorn, 360 guineas; at Mr. Greaves's, 300 guineas; at Tubney, 250 guineas; and at Mr. Farquharson's, 250 guineas. Mr. Lucy's North Warwickshire horses sold for good prices on Monday last, though none quite touched 300 gs.; and on next Monday the Cheshire horses, twenty-seven hunters and three hacks, all of them said to be very prime and fresh, as they ought to be after two such remarkably light seasons, will come before Mr. Tattersall.

Mr. Rarey is once more "at home" at the Round House; and that wicked little gentleman, the Zebra—who has owned no master as yet among the zoologists and their employés, arrived in a cage strong enough to confine ten lions—will be publicly exhibited in a very different mood after the private lessons bestowed on him.

Rugby has given a good account of Harrow on the Magdalen ground at Oxford, but the three innings out of the four were too large. The week is full of matches. On Monday the two Universities play at Lord's, and on Wednesday the M. C. C. meet Rugby; and on Thursday the M. C. C. and ground play their return with Cambridge. At Eton, on the same day, the M. C. C. play the present Etonians; and then, adjoining to Harrow on Saturday, the M. C. C. and ground play the present Harrovians. At the Oval, on Thursday, Surrey v. Nottingham is the issue; and the A. E. E. play twenty-two at Chesham on Monday; and the U. A. E. E. twenty-two selected by Captain Woodhouse, at Irtam Park.

Yachting is quite as lively; and the Henley-on-Thames Regatta on Monday and Tuesday; and the Royal Kingston-on-Thames Regatta on Thursday and Friday, are the principal events.

## BIBURY CLUB.—WEDNESDAY.

Handicap Sweepstakes.—My Niece, 1. Lilydale, 2. Bibury Stakes.—Poodle, 1. Prince of Orange, 2. Champagne Stakes.—Nimrod, 1. Ariadne, 2. Sweepstakes of 3 sovs.—Esau, 1. Firefly, 2. Andover Stakes.—Madame Rachel, 1. Peter Flat, 2.

## BEVERLEY RACES.—WEDNESDAY.

Londesboro' Handicap.—Pontifical, 1. Ellen the Fair, 2. Bishop Burton Stakes.—Marschallaise, 1. Griffin, 2. Beverley Cup.—Honeytree, 1. Tom Newcombe, 2.

## THURSDAY.

Stand Stakes.—Milkop, 1. Spider, 2. East Riding Handicap.—Captain Wedderburn, 1. Angury, 2. Londresborough Produce Stakes.—Ticket of Leave, 1. Rachel, 2.

## STOCKBRIDGE.—THURSDAY.

Eighth Triennial Stakes.—Sentinel, 1. King of the Forest, 2. Montisfont Stakes.—Musjid, 1. Truth, 2. The Stockbridge Derby.—Pitzroland, 1. Concertina, 2. Stewards' Plate.—Ignoramus, 1. Fisherman, 2.

CRICKET.—Marylebone Club and Ground v. University of Oxford: This match was commenced at Oxford on Thursday, and brought to a conclusion on Friday evening—Oxford winning, with six wickets to go down. The following is the score:—Marylebone: First innings, 71; second innings, 87. University: First innings, 101; second innings, 28.

The County of Surrey v. the Counties of Kent and Sussex (willed): This match was commenced at Brighton, on Box's ground on Thursday and was brought to a conclusion on Saturday. The following is the score:—Surrey: First innings, 38; second innings, 249. Kent and Sussex: First innings, 204; second innings, 89.

Marylebone Club and Ground v. the County of Sussex: This match was brought to a conclusion on Tuesday in favour of the County by 48 runs. The following is the score:—Sussex, 1st innings, 161; 2nd innings, 115. Marylebone, 1st innings, 120; 2nd innings, 108.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB. In consequence of insufficiency of entries the schooner match of this club, appointed for Tuesday next, is postponed sine die.



### THE NEW RAILWAY COLONY AT WOLVERTON.

THE great increase of the population in the neighbourhood of Wolverton consequent upon the growing extension of the locomotive and carriage manufactory of the London and North-Western Railway Company at that place has rendered necessary the providing of further accommodation for the residence of the workmen and their families. Already a village of some considerable extent has been established by the company, which forms the residences of the mechanics within easy distance of their scene of labour; whilst the mental and spiritual necessities of the community have been regarded in the erection of a church and schoolhouses, under the ministration and superintendence of the Rev. J. Lovekin, the chaplain of the company. The site for the sister colony was fixed upon in the hamlet of New Bradwell, about a mile from Wolverton, which, by an order in Council, has been united to the parish of Stantonbury, and it is intended that the district shall be designated Stantonbury, in remembrance of the early connection of the house of Buckingham and Chandos with the place.

About 150 cottages have just been completed, and a portion of them occupied. There is also a residence for the new Incumbent, the Rev. C. P. Cotter. The cottages are remarkably neat in appearance, and are built in the most substantial manner, with every regard to the comfort and convenience of the residents. A large community being now about to be concentrated in that locality, it was the desire of the directors to provide in this, as in their other establishments, the means of spiritual instruction; and the appeal on that behalf led to liberal private subscriptions by large numbers of the shareholders of this railway, amounting to £3200, which were followed by others in the neighbourhood of Wolverton, until a sufficient fund was formed to warrant the commencement of a church for the accommodation of between seven hundred and eight hundred persons, containing free sittings for five hundred; and a schoolhouse of considerable extent for the instruction of one hundred boys and one hundred girls; and an infant school for the like number, with dwellings for masters and for mistresses.

Monday, May 24, being a general holiday, was selected for the occasion of laying the foundation-stones of these edifices, which ceremony

was performed by the Marquis of Chandos (the chairman of the London and North-Western Railway Company) and his noble lady. The members of the various benefit clubs, with the school children, were assembled on the turnpike-road in order of procession, bearing their respective banners and emblems, to receive the distinguished visitors, who arrived upon the ground, shortly after twelve o'clock. The noble Marquis and his lady were accompanied by the Marquis of Stafford, M.P.; Lord Alfred Paget, M.P.; and Messrs. Earle Thompson, Moore, and Lawrence, directors of the company; and were received by Mr. M'Connell, the locomotive superintendent, and churchwarden of the parish, and a large number of clergymen. Mr. M'Connell presented an address to the noble Marquis, expressive of the acknowledgments of the parishioners to his Lordship and his amiable Lady for having undertaken to perform the ceremony. The foundation-stones were then laid—that of the school by her Ladyship, and that of the church by the noble Marquis—with the usual services and formalities. The company afterwards repaired to a spacious marquee erected in an adjoining field, and partook of refreshments. The workmen of the company and their families were provided with a substantial dinner under the same roof. Mr. M'Connell presided. The collation on the occasion was arranged by the foremen and workmen themselves; and to Mr. Rowland, the chief foreman, great credit is due for his zeal and discretion.

To complete the work and meet all necessary expenses about £3000 more is required. It was, however, thought best to commence at once, trusting that, as the importance of the work became known, friends of so good a cause would not be wanting. It is hoped in the course of the year to finish the schools and the dwellings for the Incumbent and teachers. The church can only be commenced.

Among the principal local donors are the Rev. Walter Drake, Vicar of Bradwell, through whom a small endowment has been secured; and Mr. William Graves, who gave the land for the site of the parsonage. The Rural Dean (the Rev. R. Norrey Russell), and the Rev. Mr. Trevelyan, of Wolverton, are also deserving of notice as active supporters of the cause, the former gentleman especially.

The edifices are to be erected from the designs of Mr. Street, the diocesan architect.



NEW CHURCH ABOUT TO BE ERECTED AT STANTONBURY, NEAR WOLVERTON.



NEW SCHOOLS IN COURSE OF ERECTION AT STANTONBURY.





THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.—THE CITY OF COVENTRY.—(SEE SUPPLEMENT, PAGE 614.)



[JUNE 19, 1853]

**DEATH.**

At Lieber, on the 19th ult., Sarah, relict of the late W. S. Burnett, Esq., in her seventy-fourth year.



**K**ING and CO., Silkmercers, &c., 243, Regent-

feeding, they are quite unrivalled." 7s. 6d. each.



## THE NEW ALEXANDRE HARMONIUM

Flounced Style, with Instructions, Eight Stamps (post-free) in  
packet.—R. PETERS, Tovil, Maidstone.



EXHIBITION  
OF THE  
ROYAL ACADEMY.  
[FOURTH NOTICE.]

G. A. Richmond, in addition to seven portraits, which we shall attend to in due time, in company with others of their class, contributes a single effort in sacred art (276), Christ on the Mount of Olives, having reference more particularly to the passage in Luke—"And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him." The artist has taken a somewhat original view of his subject, which we cannot consider the correct one. He has represented the angel of heaven, not as "strengthening" the Saviour by spiritual ministrations, but as interposing physically to support his body from falling. This is not only a departure from the meaning and intention of the words, but pictorially the result is unsatisfactory, the angel being obviously unequal to the exertion imposed upon him. The importance of this error is aggravated by the faulty drawing of the figure of Christ, which is stiff and heavy though so wanting in roundness and solidity as hardly to fill out the drapery with which it is invested. Setting aside these defects, which are of no mean order, the picture attractive in many respects: the group of sleeping disciples, dimly seen in the distance on the left, is pictorially effective.

J. Sant, also, amidst many portraits, finds room for one fancy study, entitled "A Scene in Wales" (365), the landscape part of which is contributed by G. Sant. We have here a fine, healthy country girl coming to draw water at a mountain spring. There is an honest, homely expression about her face, and a firmness and activity denoted in her figure, which have all the charm of truth; and the colouring and general treatment are as honest as the subject. The landscape composition, though confined within narrow limits and extremely simple in character, is pleasing, and executed in an unpretending manner, with a free hand.

In his "Coronation of William the Conqueror" (457) Mr. Cross does not make the most of an incident which marked the



In silks and satins new.  
And hoops of monstrous size;

She never slumbered in her pew  
But when she shut her eyes.—OLIVER GOLDSMITH, "Madie Blais."

progress of that memorable ceremonial, when, according to the passage quoted from Knight's "History of England," the shouts of the English and French being mistaken for hostile tumult, a general panic seized the assembled clergy and nobles, in the midst of which "William, though trembling from head to foot, and left almost alone in the church, &c., resolutely refused to postpone the celebration, and held the crown of England in his grip as though no mortal hand should ever wrest it from him." The artist seems to have mistaken rage for firmness. The Conqueror is in a passion, in which terror and greed have their full share; he clutches the crown as a Jew and usurer would his moneybags;—the grand idea of his moral courage and purpose preserved in spite of involuntary physical weakness, of his calmness amidst the turmoil of unknown threatening dangers, is not even attempted. The action in the other parts of the composition is also overdone—the colouring is cold, opaque, and unprepossessing.

"Lady Mary Wortley Montague in Turkey" (474), by J. Barrett, representing that eccentric personage in her Turkish habit, which she speaks of in her letter to the Countess of Mar (A.D. 1717) as "admirably becoming," is merely a costume picture, carefully studied and brightly painted.

C. Landseer adopts a passage from "The Devil on Two Sticks" as the subject of one of his two pictures (192), "The Interview between Count de Belflor and Leonora de Cespides." The Count, who has been concealed behind the hangings of the room, throws himself at the feet of Leonora, and says, "Madam, pardon the stratagem of a lover who could not live without speaking to you. If this obliging matron had not procured me this opportunity, I should have abandoned myself to despair." Leonora is at first a little taken aback by the suddenness of his address; but, recovering herself, says, "Perhaps you believe yourself very much obliged to this officious lady who has so well served your purposes; but her designs to serve you shall prove ineffectual." &c. Here was an op-



portunity for the display of great variety of expression—fervour and anxiety in the Count, coldness and hauteur in the cruel Leonora, confusion and apprehension of consequences in the “officious matron;” but the opportunity has not been improved; the faces are as expressionless as can well be imagined—the officious matron alone lights up into a sort of smile. His other picture (397), “A B C, or the Pretty Alphabet,” consists of a woman teaching a little child her letters, who, standing before her, rests her head in her lap, looking full out of the picture. Neither as to composition or colour can it claim high rank in our school of art.

Le Jeune’s “Early Days of Timothy” (132) has some good points about it, though with a little touch of the sentimentalism which characterises the modern art of France and Germany. His “Children Gathering Water Lilies” (327) is in every respect a pleasing picture—pretty in idea, pretty in treatment, nicely handled, and fresh and clear in colour.

“The Presentations of Medals for Service in the Crimea, by the Queen, on the 18th May, 1855” (399), painted, by command of her Majesty, by G. H. Thomas, is interesting in an historical point of view. Pictorially the subject was a difficult one to make anything of, with its masses of scarlet and crimson, and its hard, unyielding square-shouldered guard of honour. Mr. Thomas, however, has dealt with these unpromising materials with considerable success, the architectural outline of the Horse Guards being advantageously made good use of as a background. Amongst the personages assembled are several portraits which will at once be recognised.

Although the leaders of the pre-Raphaelite movement are not amongst us in the present exhibition, the effect of their example, or rather the influence of the principles upon which they profess to act, is apparent in the works of many rising artists, who, in some instances, have improved upon the suggestion offered, by subjecting considerations of technic realisation to the higher objects of art and the behests of reason. One of the most remarkable pictures in this way in the exhibition is Mr. J. Brett’s “Stonebreaker” (1089). Hung where it is, in an obscure corner amongst the architectural designs in the North Room, it will escape the observation of a large proportion of ordinary visitors; but those who may be induced to examine it will find it worth the time bestowed upon it. What time the artist bestowed upon its production we should be afraid to calculate, for thousands of the minute lines and touches of which it is composed can hardly be discovered without the aid of the microscope. The scene is on the roadside in one of the open hilly ranges of country of the chalk formation in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. A boy is seated breaking flints; his face is flushed with exertion, but beaming with health; he works with a will, and is not above his work, though there is a cast of thought in the expression which would indicate that he might one day be fit for better employment than is now allotted to him. His clothes are of the humblest kind, and considerably the worse for wear—his corduroys, for instance, which have given way here and there, and been rudely stitched together again. The textural treatment here, as well as in the coarse shirt, the red neckerchief, the braces, the waistcoat, and the cap—with the last of which a rough little dog is playing—and in the tool-basket and the hammer itself; and, contrasting with the last, in the down on the few stray thistles in the foreground, is such as can hardly be surpassed. As for the flints upon which the lad is at work, they can almost be separated and counted; differing all in shape and size, all more or less covered with chalk-dust, and seeming almost to smoke in the broiling heat of the noon-tide sun. Admirable for detail as are all these objects in the foreground, the background, with its wide undulating range of hills, mottled with the passing shadow of a hard cloud over head, and the trees and patchy foliage, diminished to pigmy proportions by distance, is equally remarkable for painstaking detail and delicacy of finish. There is no scumbling, no slurring over of difficulties here; everything is fashioned in its very shape and form, and yet without any obtrusiveness or harshness of outline. Thus this little work, though not of the highest class of art, and though deficient in many of the essentials of high art, has merits which may be studied by the practitioners of high art with advantage.

There are some romantic circumstances connected with the Lords of Rosslyn which have suggested the subject for a small well-filled composition to Mr. A. F. Payne (332), “The Burial of the Lord of Rosslyn,” which, though unfavourably hung in the passage, we discover to be of considerable merit. The historical legend tells us that the lands of Rosslyn were won from an ancient King of Scotland in a somewhat perilous wager made by Sir James Sinclair, who backed the speed and prowess of one of his hunting dogs with his head, and who, in gratitude for his success (after a somewhat nice squeak for it), built the beautiful Chapel of Rosslyn, considered by many to be the richest piece of stonework in Europe. There was formerly a curious custom of burying the Barons of Rosslyn in their armour instead of coffins, which Scott alludes to in his “Lay of the Last Minstrel.”—

There Rosslyn’s chiefs uncoffined lie;  
Each Baron, for his sable shroud,  
Sheathed in his iron panoply.

In the little picture under consideration the rich and beautiful carving of the chapel is fully done justice to; and the scene of the mailed Baron borne to his grave in the midst of a large assemblage of armed and other retainers, ecclesiastics, &c., is impressively rendered.

#### “MIDLE BLAIZ.” BY A. SOLOMON.

THE subject of this clever picture is explained in the lines from Goldsmith’s “Midle, Blaiz.”—

In silks and satins new,  
And hoop of monstrous size;  
She never slumbered in her pew,  
But when she shut her eyes.

In dealing with the comely proportion of the good lady the artist revels in the broadest humour of his humorous author. Lying helplessly back against the side of the pew, her feet resting on comfortable hassock, the prayer-book fallen from her opened right hand, whilst her left still grasps the handkerchief with which she has just been wiping and fanning that round, rubicund countenance—can a more telling, a more touching picture be conceived of helpless, overgrown humanity? The natural glow of the face has been enhanced by the hot sun-rays shining through the crimson curtains of the pew, so that this glowing focus seems almost to threaten a conflagration by spontaneous combustion. A young lad peers over the pew at the astounding apparition, in evident amazement. The two other figures introduced in the background serve admirably, by their quiet and earnest expression, to bring us back to the real solemnity of the ceremonial going forward; and that of the young girl who kneels on the right of Midle. Blaiz concentrates the interest of the subject under this view, and more than compensates the levity displayed in other parts of the picture. The colouring has been laid on with a lavish but discriminating hand, and with lustrous effect.

**COPYING FERNS.**—The most perfect and beautiful copies imaginable of ferns, &c., may be made by thoroughly saturating them in common porter, and then laying them flat between white sheets of paper (without more pressure than the leaves of an ordinary book to bear each other), and let them dry out.—*From Notes and Queries.*

**THE NIGER EXPEDITION.**—News from the adventurers of the Niger Expedition to the 31st of March shows that at that time Dr. Baikie was encamped near Kabba, whither Lieut. Glover, R.N., and Mr. May, R.N., were on their way from Lagos to rejoin him. Dr. Berwick was at Lairdstown, with part of the crew of the *Dayspring*. The *Sunbeam* was at the Braas River entrance of the Niger on the 22nd of April, all well, waiting for water to ascend the confluence. All were in the enjoyment of health.

**IMPORTATION AND CONSUMPTION OF WINE.**—Ten million three hundred and thirty-six thousand eight hundred and forty-eight gallons of wine were imported into the United Kingdom in the year ending December 31, 1857. The quantity charged with duty for home consumption was seven million forty-two thousand and forty-two gallons; and, on the day named, thirteen and a half million gallons remained under bond in the United Kingdom. The return from which we derive these figures shows that seven hundred and eighty-seven thousand seven hundred and fifty-three gallons of wine were imported from South Africa last year.

#### THE QUEEN’S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.

IN addition to the particulars given at page 606 of the Royal Visit to Birmingham for the purpose of opening Aston Hall and Park, we give the following historical and topographical details in relation to the subjects of three of our illustrations this week. The Staircase at Aston Hall is engraved on the first page of the accompanying Number; that of Birmingham, on pages 604-605; and that of Coventry (which city was honoured by her Majesty’s presence in her progress to Birmingham), on page 609. An interesting account of Aston Hall and Park, and how the people of Birmingham made them theirs, will be found at page 591 of last week’s Number, in an article entitled “How the People bought a Hall and Park.”

#### THE GREAT STAIRCASE, ASTON HALL.

This is very similar in design to the famous one at Crewe which has been so frequently described. It is divided by short flights of steps into numerous landings, and to each flight is an ornamental compartment divided by square high standards, enriched with grotesque heads and other ornaments in basso-relievo. From the first floor, however, the decoration consists only of low arabesque carving, but the whole standards are surmounted with vase-like ornamental terminations, boldly carved, and capped with an Ionic volute. The compartments between the standards are filled with a richly-pierced strap ornament peculiar to the period. Instead of being of polished oak, as is usual, the staircase is painted—that portion from the ground floor to the first landing being now disfigured with white; the upper part, however, shows the decoration of the whole, the colours employed being a dull red and grey, with the minor ornaments indicated by colour instead of carving. It may be noticed as a peculiarity that from the first landing the wall side has been painted in imitation of the staircase; but the drawing is of the rudest description, and also the colouring. The fourth or first-floor landing is the place rendered memorable in connection with the assault on the hall in 1643. The southern front was that selected for attack, and numerous marks still remain in the wall south of the staircase where the iron messengers forced an entrance. But one ball, after passing through two thick walls in its course, encountered the vase of one of the massive oak standards, and the stout post was riven from top to bottom, the ball finally lodging in the wall a few feet distant. The course taken by another, in a diagonal direction, through the ornamental panelling, till it found a resting-place near its companion, may also be distinctly traced. The shattered standard still remains in the condition to which it was reduced by the cannonading, as does also the balustrade; and for more than two centuries these interesting relics have remained convincing proofs of the devoted loyalty of the old Baronet. From this memorable spot the standards of the upper part of the staircase are simply ornamented with arabesque decorations, the carving being carried out with equal spirit through every portion; on the top landing are two doors, one leading to the leads over the long gallery, and the other to a gloomy corridor in the roof called “Dick’s Garret.” In the door opening from the sixth landing to the rooms over the hall is a circular hole, the effect of a stray shot at the time of the attack. The staircase is lighted on the ground and first floors by large double-mullioned windows of three lights and six divisions each; in the ledge on the first-floor window are two hollow sockets: in one of these was deposited the ball which has become so famous, its companion having been found in the garden. From the windows beautiful views of the noble avenue, the spire of the church, and the adjacent country are obtained.

#### BIRMINGHAM.

This great manufacturing town, the workshop of the world, is situated in the north-western extremity of Warwickshire, on the borders of the counties of Stafford and Worcester. It is distant north-west from London by railway 112½ miles.

Birmingham comprises the three market towns of Birmingham, Colleshill, and Sutton-Coldfield, the parishes of Card-worth, Sheldon, Wishaw-cum-Moxhall, and the township of Minworth. The town of Birmingham, with its suburban parishes of Aston and Edgbaston, possesses a jurisdiction separate from that of the hundred of Hemlinford, of which they form a part. From olden time, before the clear light of history could open the social progress of Britain, the inhabitants of Birmingham were distinguished for their handicraft skill in the working of iron. Whence its title arose does not, very evidently, appear; but the vulgar mode of pronouncing the name of the place does not appear to be without foundation. In old writings the name is frequently spelt Brumwycheham and Bromwycheham.

Birmingham seems to have been the seat of a small Roman station on Icknield-street, and some antiquities of the Romans have been found there. It is first, however, noticed in history during the early English period, when it had already engaged in the iron manufacture. At the time of the Domesday survey it seems to have been a town held by Ulwin. The town is little mentioned in history, except by chance reference to its manufacture, until the time of the Parliamentary wars, when the townsmen joined the Parliament, and were severely handled by Prince Rupert, who sacked and burnt part of the town in April, 1643. In the reign of Charles II. Birmingham began to rise rapidly in importance, and its commercial progress then became its most distinguishing feature; the only other incident of importance being the disgraceful riots of July, 1791, against the Dissenters, when the houses and papers of the illustrious Priestley, of William Hutton (the historian of Birmingham), and other distinguished men were burned and destroyed. Birmingham has continued to improve, and, profiting by its manufacturing facilities, by its situation in the central part of the island, and by its extensive communications, it has become one of the greatest towns in the country, and the capital of the midland counties. The people of Birmingham have long been distinguished by their spirit of enterprise and mercantile distinction, and they have attained the supremacy in many branches of manufactures, with which they supply not only England, but the world. They likewise hold a high rank for their encouragement of the arts.

The population of the borough of Birmingham, now estimated at upwards of 250,000, was, in 1841, 182,922, and in 1851, 232,638. The town is remarkably free from epidemic diseases, which is by some attributed to its peculiar geographical situation, by some to the dissipation of sulphuric acid gas and other gases from the factories. The manufactures of Birmingham and its neighbourhood are on a vast scale, and of the most interesting character, and exhibit the greatest proofs of skill, taste, and enterprise. They are chiefly in the working of metals. The public buildings of Birmingham are fine, and many great improvements have been made in the streets of late years. The town is above two miles long, and nearly the same in breadth. There are very few ancient buildings. The chief buildings are the Town-hall, King Edward’s Grammar School, Queen’s College, Market-hall, the Roman Catholic Cathedral, and the churches. There are in Birmingham above thirty churches and chapels of the Establishment.

According to the account of Leland, Birmingham had made but little advance during the five centuries which elapsed from the period of the Conquest to that of Henry VIII. Speaking of the place which was afterwards to become the emporium of hardware manufactures and articles of elegance, he says:—“The beauty of Birmingham, a good market town in the extreme parts of Warwickshire, is one street, going up a slope almost from the left side (or bank) of the brook, up a manehill by the length of a quarter of a mile. There be many smiths in the town that use to make knives and all manner of cutting tols, and many briners that make litters, and a great many nailers, so that a great part of the town is maintained by smiths, who have their iron and coal out of Staffordshire.”

From the low, straggling, and mean looking place of former days, Birmingham has risen into all the appearance, and possesses all the appliances, of a stately city, adorned with noble buildings, its streets displaying the aspect of a busy and thriving population, and its environs studded everywhere with the mansions and villas of wealthy proprietors.

#### COVENTRY.

Coventry is a large and ancient city and county, the see of a Bishop, an assize town, a municipality returning two members to Parliament, the capital of a union, and a polling-place for North Warwickshire. It is situated in the northern part of Warwickshire, ninety-four miles from London by railway, and ninety-one by road, and is a station on the London and North-Western Railway; from whence two loop-line railways proceed, one to the Trent Valley Railway at Nuneaton and the other to the Great Western Railway at Leamington. Coventry is on the direct road from London to Holyhead, has the advantage of a canal to Fazely, and the River Sherbourne intersects and runs through the city. Coventry was one of the chief seats of the Earls of Mercia, and is said to have been made toll-free by Leofric, Earl of Mercia, according to the well-known legend, at the request of Godiva, his wife.

Queen Elizabeth, James I., and James II. were visitors here. In 1566 Mary Queen of Scots was confined here. In 1641 it held out against Charles I. In 1677 the procession of the Great Fair was instituted, and used to be held yearly, but now it is only held occasionally, when the inhabitants liberally contribute, and great preparations are made for some weeks before. The houses are whitewashed and painted, and ribbons and cockades plentifully given away for the parties employed in the procession, which includes many effigies and a female slightly clothed, representing Lady Godiva, and is one of the most remarkable pageants in England. About the beginning of the sixteenth century the ribbon manufacture was introduced, and about 1770 that of watches, both of which are still largely carried on, as well as fringe and trimming making. The trade further includes brewing, malting, brick-making, iron foundries, coach-making, carpet-making, stocking, plush, and velvet weaving, thread-making, coach-lace, shag, pillow-lace, funeral-feather, umbrella, silk-throwing, power-loom making, and other trades. The market is held on Friday, and the fairs are held on the 2nd of May for cheese, and the large fair commences on the Friday before Trinity Sunday, and continues eight days, and on the first day, once in from three to five years, the pageant alluded to takes place; November the 1st, and what is called a new fair, the third Tuesday in every month, and September the 16th for cheese. The Corporation consists of a Mayor (who is the returning officer), a Sheriff, Chamberlain, Coroner, Town Clerk, eleven Aldermen (who preside over the five wards into which the city is divided), thirty Common Councilmen, and other officers. The city is remarkable for many fine remains of ancient architecture, curious carvings, timber houses, &c. St. Mary’s Hall is the Guildhall, and was built in the reign of Henry VI., when it belonged to St. Mary’s or Trinity Guild. It is a fine Gothic hall, 76 feet 6 inches long, 30 feet wide, and 31 feet high, the whole repaired in 1826. The County Hall, in which the assizes are held, was built of stone in 1785. The Drapers’ Hall is a Doric building, rebuilt early in the present century. Here was anciently a cross, built in 1423. St. John’s Church was founded by the Merchants’ Guild, or fraternity of St. John the Baptist, about 1350. Near this church is Bablake Hospital, founded by Thomas Bond, Mayor of this city, in 1596. St. Michael’s Church is in the Perpendicular style, and has a beautiful tower enriched with tracery, figures of saints and bishops in rich niches, and the whole crowned with a spire supported by flying buttresses, and supposed to be one of the loftiest in the kingdom. It was begun in 1372, and finished in twenty years. The nave was built in the reign of Henry VI. The length of the church is 303 feet; breadth, 104 feet; height of spire, 303 feet. Besides other churches there are meeting-houses for Unitarians, Presbyterians, Independents, Baptists, Quakers, and Wesleyans. The Free Grammar School was originally the Hospital of St. John the Baptist, founded in the reign of Henry II. by Edmund, Archdeacon of Coventry, and at the Dissolution bought by John Hales, Clerk of the Hmaner, and made into a free school. The Bluecoat School is endowed with £350 per annum. There are national and other schools, a mechanics’ institution, and a school of design.

#### LONDON EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE FINE ARTS IN SCOTLAND.

This society, founded in the year 1833, was the first established in the United Kingdom, upon the principle of art-unions, for the purpose of distributing works of art amongst the subscribers. In its management it differs from our Art-Union in this important respect—that the selection of pictures, instead of being left to the taste and discretion of the fortunate prizeholders, is made by a committee, the works so selected being afterwards allotted in the usual way by ballot. This is an arrangement which implies a recognition of superior capacity in the committee appointed; it confers distinction upon them, but it also involves a serious responsibility, with the possibility of all sorts of imputations, both as to incapacity and favouritism, from all who may feel aggrieved or disappointed by the selection. Moreover, it amounts to a general acknowledgment of wholesale incompetency on the part of the public, albeit subscribers to funds for the encouragement of art, which we should be unwilling, as a matter of course, and continuously, to subscribe to. Upon the whole, therefore, we prefer the universal suffrage principle of the South to the oligarchy of the North; but we nevertheless wish all success to the “Royal Association of Scotland,” which we believe has done much for the promotion of art in that country.

The occasion of our present notice is the exhibition of the works selected for distribution as prizes amongst the subscribers to this association in July next, which are now on view at Mr. Walesby’s Gallery, 5, Waterloo-place, obligingly lent for the purpose. The pictures, seventy-one in number, have all been selected from the Exhibition of the Royal Scottish Academy for the current year, at a gross cost of £2678. We believe this is the second exhibition of the same sort, and emanating from the same quarter, that has taken place in London; and to the lover of art it must prove of considerable interest, as illustrating to a certain extent the character and pretensions of the school of art of our northern neighbours and fellow-subjects.

After a careful survey we have great pleasure in admitting the existence of considerable merit and considerable promise in these works, though, if we were called upon to accept them as fairly representing the average stamp of the arts of Scotland, truth would compel us to state that in many important points they are considerably behind those nearer home. We observe much fancy in the selection and treatment of subjects, great painstaking in elaborating their constituent parts, but a marked shortcoming in the general execution, particularly in point of colour, chiaroscuro, and those great essentials—harmony and keeping. The gift of representing individual facts and of imitating particular objects is manifested occasionally with distinguished success; but it is the gift of a young art which has yet to be matured by thought and the study of the great principles which elevate art above the mere truth of representation.

The leading picture in the collection, and which obtained the high-prize (£260), is a “Highland Raid,” in which a party of Macgregors are intercepted and attacked when on a marauding expedition by some of the Royal soldiery;—a bustling scene, but overcrowded, and patchy in colour. “The Weald of Kent,” by S. Bough, shows us a fine bit of real scenery boldly and broadly treated. The winding road in the centre is enlivened by the introduction of some soldiers on march guarding a baggage-wagon. But the sheep straggling about in the foreground are not pleasant specimens of the breed, and their colour is almost that of the dusty road. “The Soldier’s Widow” (by Hugh Cameron), reading the first news of her husband’s death, is a clever study, but it appears too obviously studied from one who had “made up” for the purpose, and who had never felt the bereavement. Instead of staring out of the canvas, with her mouth open and head erect, she should have dropped her head in her hands, or over the baby in her arms, and wept; but then the opportunity for displaying a fine face in a striking “set” of features would have been lost. The dog jumping up to the woman’s shoulder is an idea borrowed from Millais (which he had as well have left alone), which Mr. Cameron has improved upon by the addition of a couple of frolicsome puppies.

“Marley Gray,” by W. Q. Orchardson, is an impressive picture, displaying much ability and feeling in the treatment. We do not quite comprehend the subject, which in the catalogue is referred to a Scotch ballad, which we confess ourselves unable to read; but it appears to represent the victims of a barbarous fray in olden time, who have been fastened to posts and shot to death with arrows by their victors. The principal of these figures is admirably designed: the body, still bound to the post, in which an arrow is sticking, sits or lies helplessly, in an attitude indicating the agony and prostration of spirit endured in the last struggle of nature. The hands are of a livid blue. Death is too plainly in his pale face, into which his lover, who has come out to seek him, stares in helpless terror and anguish.

“Hannah and Samuel,” by R. Herdman, is a somewhat pretty group, rather hardly executed. But where did Hannah get her blue woollen shawl, with fringe? There is considerable spirit in Charles Lee’s “Winter Afternoon—Curlers and Skaters in Linlithgow Loch;” some fun, but a little too much savageness, in A. H. Burr’s “Dominie,” with uplifted strap over the head of the unfortunate victim whom he has “caught napping.” “The Recruiting Party,” by Keeley Halswelle, is a wonderful elaboration of dollwork, picked out in crude local colour, without an attempt at softening down. A large proportion of the remaining pictures are landscapes, amongst which rocky scenes in the Highlands predominate.



THE MUTINY IN INDIA.

The following despatch from Bombay has been received at the India House:—

OUDE.

Since my last message there has been no event of importance in Oude. There have been no disturbances, and a great portion of the province appears to be settling down. The Goorkhas have reached Fyzabad, and on the 6th half of them had crossed the Gogra. They have met with no opposition on their way.

BENARES DIVISION.

The Joudpore and Azimgarh districts are reported quiet. At Belwah, in the Goruckpore district, there is still a collection of rebels, and in consequence of a movement by the forces under the rebel Nazim Mohammed Hussein and others, which threatened to interrupt the communication with Goruckpore, Colonel Howcroft retired to Gunga. He has since been reinforced by the head-quarters wing of her Majesty's 13th Light Infantry, with two guns.

ALLAHABAD DIVISION.

General Whitlock is still at Banda, where he awaits the arrival of Brigadier M'Duff's column. On the — a band of rebels from the opposite side of the Jumna surprised the police post and the Tehseel established at Lalpore of the Cawnpore district. The Tehseeldar was wounded. One of our men was killed and some treasure lost.

AGRA DIVISION.

There is nothing of importance to communicate from this division. All is quiet, except at Etawah and Etah, and there the rebels have been defeated in several small skirmishes, losing two of their leaders, and have become less troublesome.

MEERUT DIVISION.

This division remains perfectly tranquil.

ROHILCUND DIVISION.

The Bignour district is said to be perfectly tranquil, and our authority has been thoroughly re-established in it, as reported in the last message. The city of Moradabad was reoccupied on the 26th ult. by the Roorkes column, which has since reached Bareilly, as will be further noticed below. Confidence has been restored throughout the district of Moradabad, and the inhabitants of the city, who had fled, are returning in great numbers.

BUDAON DISTRICT.

The force under Brigadier Penny, after crossing the Ganges, marched on Kukulra, ten miles from Budaon; the General and his Staff were in advance, and came upon a body of horse, which they at first took to be a portion of the baggage guard which had marched by a more direct route on the flank of the column. The General rode towards it, and when at thirty yards' distance four guns opened with grape on the party. General Penny shortly after was missed, and the command devolved on Colonel Jones, her Majesty's 6th Carabineers. Our troops quietly came up, and the action ended in the total defeat of the enemy, one gun and two limbers being captured. It is not known when General Penny was wounded; but his body was recovered after the action close to Kukulra. It appeared that his bridle arm had been broken by a musket-ball, and his horse had then taken fright and carried him close to the town, where the rebels rushed upon him and cut him up with their swords. The troops which had composed Brigadier Penny's column marched, after the action at Kukulra, across Rohilcund to their own risk (right?), and joined the force of the Commander-in-Chief on the 2nd inst. Shahjehanpore was occupied without opposition on the 1st of May by the Commander-in-Chief, who had joined Walpole's column. The next day his Excellency, leaving a small garrison at Shahjehanpore, marched on Bareilly. On the 3rd of May a large body of rebels, headed by the fanatic Monvie of Lucknow, came down from Mohundie, in Oude, cut up a picket of De Kantow's Horse, plundered the city, massacring many of the inhabitants, and compelled the garrison to take shelter in the in-trenchment round the wall. Our troops are believed to have a supply of provisions, and will, in all probability, hold their own against the rebels, who are closely blockading them, until relief is afforded. Brigadier-General Jones, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, marched with a strong force towards Shahjehanpore on the 5th inst.; he is expected to arrive there to-day. Bareilly was attacked on the 6th by the columns under the Commander-in-Chief and Brigadier-General Jones. The rebels were driven into the city with the loss of several guns. The city was entirely occupied by our forces on the 7th inst.

CENTRAL INDIA AND RAJPOOTANA.

Sir Hugh Rose has defeated the rebels at Koonah, killing 400 or 500 men. The remnant of the enemy will, it is said, make a stand near Culpee. At the requisition of Sir Hugh Rose, who was apprehensive that Jhansi and his rear might be threatened, General Roberts has dispatched a field brigade, consisting of one regiment Europeans, one regiment Native Infantry, one wing 8th Hussars, one squadron 1st Lancers, and one troop Horse Artillery, which will operate towards Gochnah. General Roberts, with the rest of his force, has marched towards Neomuch. A court of inquiry has been held on the Maharajah of Kotah, to investigate his conduct in connection with the murder of the late political agent, Major Burton. The proceedings have been completed and submitted to Government. No British force has been left at Kotah, nor has any political agent remained there.

NAGPORE.

A zemindar in the Chopda district is in open rebellion, and has murdered two of the telegraph employés. The Commissioner has moved out a force against the rebels, and taken necessary precautions.

PUNJAB.

On the 25th Sir Sydney Cotton destroyed Punniar, in Eusufzye, and Cheaghe. On the 26th the robber chief lost much property. On the night of the 27th-28th of April Sir Sydney Cotton and Colonel Edwards ascended the Mulabon mountains, on the right bank of the Indus, and destroyed the stronghold of a noted chief. On the 4th Sitana was destroyed by the same force. The Hindostanee fanatics fought with determination, and were cut to pieces. Our loss—four natives killed and twelve wounded.

BENGAL—BEHAR.

Her Majesty's 8th Regiment, with two guns and 100 Sikh cavalry, are at Arrah. Sir E. Lugard marched on Arrah on the 7th, and intended to attack Juggesore on the 9th. Colonel Corfield was to co-operate at Basseram. The rebels under Ummur Singh, the brother of Koor Singh, are believed to number from 7000 to 9000 men, mostly villagers. They have one small gun and our two howitzers. Koor Singh is now believed to be still alive. All is reported quiet in the other parts of the Patna division.

G. F. EDMONSTONE,

Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor-General. Allahabad, May 10.

SUPPLEMENT TO MR. SECRETARY EDMONSTONE'S MESSAGE, DATED MAY 10.

Sir E. Lugard attacked the rebels at Donstanpore on May 9, and drove them before him to Juggesore, which place he entered on the same day. The enemy, having sustained severe loss, retreated to the southward, and abandoned the two guns they had captured from the Arrah force. Sir E. Lugard entered Jaitpore on May 11, after repulsing an attack of the enemy; on May 12 he formed a junction with Colonel Corfield at Perou, and on May 13 returned, hearing that Major Lightfoot, who had been left at that place, had been attacked by the rebels. Amer Singh, a rebel leader, is reported to have been killed at Jaitpore.

ROHILCUND.

On May 9 Brigadier Jones relieved the garrison at Shahjehanpore, after defeating the Moulvie.

ALLYGHUR.

A rebel force has crossed the Ganges and entered the Allyghur districts. A conspiracy had been discovered and suppressed in the wing of the 4th Bengal Native Infantry at Allahabad; six of two conspirators have been hanged. The wing is now sent to Jubbulpore.

R. L. ANDERSON, Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, May 10.

CENTRAL INDIA.

The Rango of Jabon has surrendered to Sir R. Hamilton. The Rango of Jhansi and Tanta Tapa are at Calcutta. The Rango of Banda has joined them with a strong force. The Rango of Calcutta has been destroyed, in order to prevent the passage of guns, and a bridge has been constructed from Jabon across the Jumna. Brigadier Smith's column from Kotah took the fort of Parou on May 8. The Rango of Parou was captured at Dehli on May 9. Information was received at Gonda on May 14 that 5000 rebels had stormed and retaken Chundah, which had been taken by Sir H. Rose in charge of

Scindia's troops. The resistance was obstinate. The rebels have also seized Sullutpore and Thalbut, and threatened Baghur.

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

The Bheel Naicks, Boomi and Mussowa, have surrendered; and no further disturbances are reported in Candeish. The rest of the Bombay Presidency is quiet.

R. L. ANDERSON, Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10th May.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

VISIT OF MR. MORPHY, THE AMERICAN CHESS CHAMPION.—A communication which has just reached us by the *Fulton*, from New York, conveys the gratifying intelligence that Mr. Paul Morphy has definitively settled to visit England and attend the meeting of the British Chess Association at Birmingham in August.

\* Our customary Notices to Correspondents are deferred, from room.

PROBLEM NO. 748.

By R. B. WORMALD.

BLACK.



White, playing first, to mate in five moves.

BLINDFOLD CHESS PLAY.

The following games were lately played by M. de Riviere simultaneously, and without chess board or men, at the seat of M. le Comte BASTEROT, in France.

No. I.

BETWEEN M. DE RIVIERE AND M. DE BASTEROT.

(King's Gambit declined.)

WHITE (M. de R.)	BLACK (M. de B.)	WHITE (M. de R.)	BLACK (M. de B.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	29. P to Q 4th	B to Q 3rd
2. P to K B 4th	P to K 4th	(Black plays this Game in parts very cleverly.)	
3. P takes K P	P takes K B P	30. B to Q 3rd	P to K R 4th
4. K Kt to K B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	31. K to R 3rd	It to K Kt 4th
5. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q 3rd	32. P to Q B 4th	B to Q Kt 5th
6. P to Q 3rd	Q to K 2nd (ch)	33. R to K 3rd	K to B 2nd
7. Q to K 2nd	Q takes Q	34. P to Q R 3rd	B to Q 7th
8. K takes Q	Q B to K Kt 5th	35. R to K 2nd	B to Q B 8th
9. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q R 3rd	36. R to Q 2nd	
10. K R to K sq	Castles		
11. K to B sq	B takes Kt		
12. P takes B	Q Kt to Q 2nd		
13. Kt to K 4th	B to K 4th		
14. Kt takes Kt (ch)	P takes Kt		
15. K R to K 4th	P to K B 4th		
16. K R to K 2nd	K to B sq		
17. Q B to Q 2nd	K R to K Kt sq		
18. Q R to K sq	B to Q 5th		
19. K R to Kt 2nd	R takes Kt		
20. K takes R	R to K Kt sq (ch)		
21. K to B sq	Kt to K 4th		
22. R to K B sq	Kt takes B P		
23. Q B takes B P	R to K 5th		
24. B to K Kt 3rd	P to K B 5th		
25. R takes Kt	P takes B		
26. P takes P	P to K B 3rd		
27. P to Q B 3rd	B to K 4th		
28. K to Kt 2nd	K to Kt 2nd		

No. II.

BETWEEN M. DE RIVIERE AND M. DE BLEMER.

(Queen's Gambit declined.)

WHITE (M. de R.)	BLACK (M. de B.)	WHITE (M. de R.)	BLACK (M. de B.)
1. P to Q 4th	P to Q 4th	22. B takes P	K R to K sq
2. P to K B 4th	K Kt to K B 3rd	23. B to K B 6th	K to B sq
3. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q R 3rd	(dis. ch)	
4. P to K 3rd	P to K 3rd	24. Q R to K Kt sq	
5. Q B to Q 2nd	K B to Q 3rd		
6. K Kt to K B 3rd	Castles		
7. K B to K 2nd	P takes Q B P		
8. K B takes P	P to Q Kt 4th		
9. K B to Q 3rd	Q B to Kt 2nd		
10. Castles	K Kt to Kt 5th		
11. P to K R 3rd	K Kt to K R 3rd		
12. P to K 4th	Q to K B 3rd		
13. P to K 5th	Q B takes Kt		
14. P takes B	Q to K R 3th		
15. K to K 2nd			
(The Bishop, we believe, might have been safely taken.)			
16. K R to K Kt sq	Q takes K B P (ch)		
17. K R to Kt 2nd	Q to K R 5th		
18. Q to K sq	Kt to K B 4th		
19. B takes Kt	P takes B		
20. Q takes Q	B takes Q		
21. B to R 6th	Q Kt to Q 3rd		
(P to K Kt 3rd would have involved less loss in the end.)			

And in a few moves Black abandoned the Game.

UNPARALLELED PERFORMANCE IN CHESS-PLAYING WITHOUT BOARD AND MEN.

(From Leslie's "American Illustrated Newspaper.")

The most stupendous feat of memory ever attempted in the world has just been successfully performed by Louis Paulsen. On the evenings of the 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th of May, 1858, he succeeded in playing ten games mentally, without sight of men or boards, playing nearly one thousand moves without an error, and frequently correcting the errors of his adversaries. Mr. Henry Herriss, of Chicago, writes—"In the midst of one of the games a piece was moved to a certain square. Paulsen demurred to that move being made, alleging that the square was already occupied. There was a movement of painful suspense, and many of the bystanders, shaking their heads, thought that for once Paulsen's amazing memory had proved treacherous; but he soon dispelled all doubts, by giving the position of the Pawns and Pawns as they stood at the close of the evening before; and, repeating the moves made since, actually stated the exact time at which his opponent's mistakes had been committed." Each evening, on the conclusion of a game, Mr. Paulsen named over every piece on all the boards with an error. "He went further. Being asked to keep his word and conclude the match at the appointed time, he asked to be excused one night from ending the position of the pieces, but requested us to see that there had been no change made. To that effect, at a distance of nearly one mile from the hall, simply, quietly, and with no other assistance than the 'mind's eye,' he described the actual standing of every board. We took it down in writing, went to compare Paulsen's description with the positions, and from No. 1 to 10, from Pawn to King, found that everything stood precisely as he had announced it." Mr. Paulsen won nine of the games, and consented that one game No. 2 should be considered as drawn.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Grand Cross of the most distinguished order of St. Michael and St. George has been conferred upon Admiral Lord Lyons.

A patient under the care of M. Corcaldi, at the Gros-Caillon Military Hospital, who was about to submit to an operation, and to whom chloroform was administered, died before the operation was commenced.

Sir B. Brodie has given his consent to be put in nomination as President at the ensuing anniversary of the Royal Society, to be held in November next.

The *Austrian Gazette* states that the Cabinet of Vienna has the intention of replacing the Julian calendar in Hungary, Slavonia, Dalmatia, Servia, and Galicia, by the Gregorian; after having obtained the co-operation of the clergy of the Greek Church.

Mr. Thomas Alexander, C.B., Inspector-General of Hospitals, has been appointed Director-General of the Army Medical Department, vice Dr. Andrew Smith, resigned.

The next examination of candidates for direct commissions in the army will be held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, on the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 19th of July.

Lord Malmesbury has filled up the mission to Tuscany by appointing Mr. Lyons, the eldest son of Lord Lyons.

Prussia has proposed to resume the consideration of the question of abolishing gaming-houses throughout the Federal States.

Mr. J. A. Longridge, C.E., has been sent out, with two assistants, to make surveys in the Mauritius, and to report upon the capabilities of the colony for the introduction of railways.

The annual distribution of prizes to the Institutional Association of Lancashire and Cheshire, is this year to be made by the Duke of Montrose, and will take place in the autumn.

The Great Western Railway Company have announced an excursion from Bristol to Cherbourg, calling at Alderney, the Gibraltar of the Channel Islands.

The *Gazette* of Friday week contains a new schedule of rates and duties payable on vessels at Gibraltar, instead of those contained in the schedule of the order in Council dated 13th January, 1857; and also the new Russian method of determining the tonnage of ships.

We regret to hear of the death of Dr. Brown, Keeper of the Botanical Collection in the British Museum, and formerly President of the Linnean Society. The deceased botanist was in the 85th year of his age.

The Marquis of Salisbury, as Lord President of the Committee of Council on Education, has invited members of both Houses of Parliament to visit the South Kensington Museum on Saturday evening (to-day), from nine till twelve.

It is announced that there will be a great horticultural exhibition at Caen on the 22nd, 23rd, 24th, and 25th of July, upon the occasion of the visit to that town of the Emperor and Empress of the French.

The visitors to the South Kensington Museum were:—On Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday (free days), 2324; on Monday and Tuesday (free evenings), 3093; on the three students' days (admission to the public ed.), 809; one students' evening (Wednesday), 122; total, 6817.

The *Fied Ghelud*, an Egyptian war steamer, arrived in the Mersey last week from Malta and Alexandria. She is to undergo some repairs and new fittings at the yard of Mr. John Laird, Birkenhead. The *Fied Ghelud* is a large and strongly-built paddle-steamer, rather bluff, and of the "old school."

Richard Munday, a youth of sixteen, the son of a leather-merchant of Liverpool, fell on Thursday week from the second story of his father's warehouse, and was almost immediately killed.

M. Alexandre Dumas, sen., has just published the first chapter of a work which he had promised on cookery, under the title of "Cuisine Macaronique," being principally filled with an account of the best method of preparing macaroni for the table.

The great majority of the States of the German Zollverein have consented, on the proposition of Prussia, to adopt a joint legislation with regard to the issue of paper money and bank-notes.

On Wednesday week a boiler explosion occurred in the Spring Mill, Rosendale, a cotton-mill belonging to Messrs. Fowler and Co. Two young men were killed on the spot, and a woman has since died. Seven or eight persons were scalded and otherwise injured.

Colonel Waugh, the director of the Eastern Bank, has left Spain, and is now residing in one of the Azores. His property in Branksea Island, on the coast of Dorset, will shortly be brought to the hammer. It is mortgaged to the amount of nearly £40,000.

The Bishop of London has fixed Tuesday, the 11th of July, for the consecration of the new Church of St. Thomas, Portman-square. The Rev. H. J. Lumsden, M.A., formerly Minister of St. Peter's, Ipswich, has been appointed the first incumbent.

A final dividend of 4d. in the pound has been declared in the Court of Bankruptcy for the Bristol district on the estate of Williams and Sons, of Newport, bankers. This, with the former dividends, makes a total payment of 4s. 8d. in the pound on the debts proved, which reached nearly £69,000.

The launch of the first-class screw-steamer frigate the *Orlando* took place at Pembroke on Saturday last. The *Orlando* is the first of the new class; she is 300 feet in length, and 3720 tons burden, and her armament is of the heaviest calibre. She is of greater length than the *Duke of Wellington*, 140 guns.

It is announced that a soirée of the members and friends of the Manchester Athenæum will be held this year at the Free-trade Hall. Lord John Russell is to be present, and it is expected that the soirée will take place about the third week in October.

In the year ended the 31st of March last 3651 game certificates were taken out in Ireland, and 41 convictions for infringement of the game laws took place.

At a sale of literary property in London, on Tuesday week, the copyright and stereotype plates of Jeremy Bentham's complete works in eleven volumes, sold for £145.

The number of patients relieved at the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road, during last week was 2138, of which 859 were new cases.

The Kew Gardens are now in all their summer beauty and splendour. The gardens are open (free) every day at one; Sundays at two—closing every day at seven.

The United States' Government contemplate sending out an Arctic Expedition to follow up the late Dr. Kane's discoveries in Baffin's Bay.

The penalty which will be incurred by the European and Australian Company for delay in bringing to England the heavy portion of the Australian mail recently brought to Suez in the steam-ship *Victoria* will amount to about £2500.

The deliveries of tea in London estimated for last week were 779,459 lb., which is an increase of 61,291 lb. compared with the previous statement.

Alderman Michael Gibbs died at Hertford on Tuesday week, in the 75th year of his age.

The total number of patients under treatment at the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, during last week, was 1125, of which 172 were new cases.

During the thunderstorm in the metropolis on Saturday week immediately after a vivid flash of lightning, a piece of ice, measuring two inches and three eighths in length, about an inch and a half in breadth, and one inch in thickness, fell in North-street, Mile-end.

Don Miguel has published a manifesto in one of the journals of Lisbon, in which he formally confirms the statements already made by his partisans, that he will not renounce what he terms "his rights" to the throne of Portugal.

The Queen has conferred the honour of knighthood upon William Rae, Esq., M.D., Companion of the Most Hon. Military Order of the Bath, and Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets; and upon James Prior, Esq., Deputy Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets, Royal Navy.

The charge payable on the issue of a Foreign-office passport is reduced from 6s. to 2s. The reduction took place on Tuesday. Brevet Colonel Thomas Elwyn, of the Royal Artillery, and the Rev. Henry Mosely, M.A., Canon of Bristol, have been appointed additional members of the Council of Military Education.

On Friday week Mr. Owen, one of the imprisoned directors of the Royal British Bank, was released from the Queen's Prison under a Royal pardon. The sentence passed on Alderman Kennedy has been reduced from nine months to four months' imprisonment; he will therefore be released on the 26th instant.

The controversy between the Bishop of Exeter and the Tiverton Burial Board, as to whether a wall twelve inches high in the burial-place of that town formed a sufficient division between the consecrated and unconsecrated portions of the ground, was terminated on Saturday last by Lord Campbell giving judgment for the burial board.





"THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL."—PAINTED BY A. RANKLEY.—FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)





"A MOUNTAIN TORRENT—MORNING."—PAINTED BY T. CRESWICK, R.A.—FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

"THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL."

BY A. RANKLEY.

A TOUCHING scene of domestic interest, depicted in an unpretending but forcible manner. A young lad who has run away from home in pursuit of his own vagaries has at last taken to the sea, and after a hard life of struggle finds himself again on his native land, near the home which misconduct has dimmed and broken. Impelled by his necessities, or by some still latent trace of feeling, he enters, and in an agony of shame and grief flings himself at the feet of his father, who, laying aside the religious book which he has just been reading, receives the penitent with uplifted hands and an expression of calm bene-

volence and Christian tolerance. Two young girls look on with faces full of melancholy—but a melancholy mixed with generous sympathy and sisterly affection. They are in deep mourning, probably for their mother, whose portrait hangs in the centre of the wall at the back, partially covered by a curtain. The poor woman has evidently pined away and died broken-hearted at the misconduct of her only son; and who, although admitted again to his home, will find that home no longer what it was when he turned his back upon it. This somewhat painful subject is worked out with great simplicity and solemnity of purpose. The canvas is not overcrowded with figures, and no unnecessary accessories have been introduced for the purpose of mere display. The breakfast-service on the

right, and the two figures listening in the doorway, serve as a little relief to the more serious business going on in front, and complete the domestic character of the subject.

"THE MOUNTAIN TORRENT—MORNING."

BY T. CRESWICK, R.A.

THIS picture is boldly conceived, and displays masterly treatment in the execution. The mountain torrent, swollen by recent rains, rushes onward from the bank, and at its crest almost threatens to leap out of the canvas at the feet of the spectator; it is diverted below, however, by a solid block of shelving rock, across which lie some fir-trees,



divested of foliage. The water, foaming with rage, is full of motion and fluidity; but the truthfulness of its realisation would probably be more apparent if the picture was hung a little higher than it is at present. Perched on the top of the rock-wall on the left are some deer, whose forms stand out in plain relief against the sky in the distance, which is lighted up with the first rays of morn. On the opposite side a lofty mountain, crowned with a ruined castle, closes in and gives a romantic interest to the scenery which has much of the Scandinavian character about it.

## TRANSATLANTIC SKETCHES.

### A RICE PLANTATION.

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

As mentioned in my last, I visited a rice plantation, not so much with the view of satisfying myself that the slaveowners of America are kind to their negroes, as to satisfy the public opinion of Charleston that English travellers are not prejudiced against Southern proprietors, and that they are willing to be convinced, by ocular demonstration, that humanity and generosity towards the negro race may exist in the bosoms and sway the actions of men who hold property in their fellows. So much exaggeration has entered into the descriptions of negro life in the south, which have been given to the world by writers who have earned for themselves the title of "malignant philanthropists," that the slaveowners actually think they have done something in the vindication of slavery when they have proved, as they easily can, that they do not scourge, disfigure, maim, starve, or kill their negroes, but that, on the contrary, they feed them well, clothe them well, provide them with good medical attendance for the ills of the flesh, and spiritual consolations for the doubts and distresses of the soul. Having proved this, they are satisfied, and will take no broader or higher ground on which to debate the question. On my first arrival at New Orleans I lingered for a few moments at the open door of a slave dépôt, without daring to go in, lest I should be suspected of espionage, or mere curiosity, and expelled. But seeing among the company an eminent merchant of New York whose friendship I had been fortunate enough to make, and whom I knew to be no slaveholder or supporter of slavery, I walked in and joined his party, drawn thither like myself by curiosity. On one side of the room the male slaves, with clean linen, and shining new hats and boots, were arranged; and on the other the females were disposed in their best attire, most of them exceedingly neat, but some bedizened with ribbons, of colours more glaring and tawdry than elegant or appropriate. I was immediately beset with entreaties to purchase.

"Buy me," said a young negress, who spoke French and no English; "I am a good cook, and a good needlewoman. Buy me."

"Buy me," said another, in the same language; "I am accustomed to children, and can make myself useful in the nursery."

I felt a sensation something similar to that of the first qualm of seasickness to be so addressed by my fellow-creatures—a feeling of nausea, as if I were about to be ill. I told the poor women that I was a stranger, who had not come to buy. But they were incredulous; and, when at last convinced, they returned to their seats with a sigh and an expression of deep disappointment on their dark and good-humoured features. I entertained such a hatred of slavery that, had it been in my power to abolish it in one instant off the face of the earth by the mere expression of my will, at that instant slavery would have ceased to exist.

I then walked to the male side of the slave mart, where I was beset by similar entreaties, urged in every variety of tone and manner, and by almost every variety of labourer and handicraftsman. Some were accustomed to the cotton, and some to the sugar plantation; some were carpenters, some gardeners, some coachmen, some barbers, some waiters; but all were equally anxious to be sold. One man—who to my inexperienced eyes seemed as white as myself, and whom I at once put down in my own mind as an Irishman, of the purest quality of the county of Cork—got up from his seat as I passed, and asked me to buy him: "I am a good gardener, your honour," said he, with an unmistakable brogue. "I am also a bit of a carpenter, and can look after the horses, and do any sort of odd job about the house."

"But you are joking," said I; "you are an Irishman?"

"My father was an Irishman," he said.

At this moment the slaveholder and owner of the dépôt came up.

"Is there not a mistake here?" I inquired. "This is a white man!"

"His mother was a nigger," he replied. "We have sometimes much whiter men for sale than he is. Look at his hair and lips. There is no mistake about him."

Again the sickness came over me, and I longed to get into the open air to breathe a purer atmosphere. "I would like to buy that man and set him free," I said to one of our party. "You would do him no good," was the reply. "A manumitted slave has seldom any self-reliance or energy. Slavery so degrades and cripples the moral faculties of the negroes that they require the crutch, even in freedom, and cannot walk alone. They find it impossible to compete with the free whites, and, if left to themselves, sink into the lowest and most miserably-paid occupations."

"You are an Englishman and a traveller," said the slaveholder, "and should be much obliged to you if you would put any questions to the negroes." "What questions?" said I. "Shall I ask them whether they prefer freedom or slavery?" "I don't mean that," he replied. "Ask them whether I do not treat them well; whether I am not kind to them; whether they do not have plenty to eat and drink while they are with me?" I told him that I had no doubt of the fact; that they looked clean, comfortable, and well fed; but—And in that "but" lay the whole case, though the worthy dealer of New Orleans was totally incapable of comprehending it. The same feeling seems to exist all through the Slave States; but more of this hereafter.

As already mentioned in some of my letters, I had received many invitations while in the south to visit plantations of cotton, sugar, and rice, that I might see the slaves in their homes and watch them at their labours in the field or the swamp, and judge for myself whether they were well or ill treated, and whether their owners were men of the patriarchal type, like Abraham of old, or of the type of Blunderbore in the child's story—ogres of cruelty and oppression. I was unable to accept any of these invitations until my arrival in Charleston, when I gladly availed myself of the opportunity afforded me by the courteous hospitality of General Gadsden to visit his rice plantation at Pimlico. The General is known both to Europe and America as the negotiator of the famous Gadsden Treaty with Mexico, by means of which a portion of the large province of Sonora was annexed to the already overgrown dominion of Brother Jonathan. His estate of Pimlico is situated about twenty-seven miles from Charleston. The General owns on this property between two and three hundred slaves, but only resides upon it for a small portion of the year, having possessions in Florida and other parts of the Union; and being compelled, like all other men of European blood, to avoid in the warm weather the marshy regions favourable to rice cultivation.

From Charleston the railway for twenty miles runs as straight as an arrow's flight through a forest of primeval pine. These melancholy trees form the most conspicuous feature of the landscape in the two Carolinas, and in Georgia. Often for whole days, and for hundreds of miles, the traveller sees no other vegetation but this rank, monotonous, forest growth. Here and there a clearing, here and there a swamp, here and there a village dignified with the title of a town or of a city, and one unvarying level of rich but uncultivated land;—such is the general characteristic of the "Sunny South" as the traveller leaves the seaboard and penetrates inwards to the great valley of the Mississippi. In less than an hour and a half our train stopped at a station at which there was neither clerk, nor check-taker, nor porter, nor official of any kind. Having descended, luggage in hand, we saw our train dart away into the long-receding vista of the forest, and awaited in solitude the vehicle which had been ordered from Pimlico to convey us to the plantation. We being before, or the negro-driver after, the appointed time, we had to remain about a quarter of an hour at the station and amuse ourselves as best we might. Though the station itself was deserted, a small log-hut and inclosure, almost immediately opposite, swarmed with life. A whole troop of ragged children, with fair hair and blue eyes, played about the clearing; a donkey browsed upon the scanty undergrowth; cocks crowed upon the fence; hens cackled in the yard; and lean pigs prowled about in every direction seeking what they might devour. The loneliness of the place, with the deep thick pine woods all around it, and the shiny lines of rail stretching as far as the vision could penetrate in one unbroken parallel into the wilderness, suggested the inquiry as to who and what were the inhabitants of the log-hut? "The pest of the neighbourhood," was the reply. "Here lives a German Jew and his family, who keep a store for the accommodation of the negroes." "And how a pest?" "The negroes require no accommodation. They are supplied by their owners with everything necessary for their health and comfort; but they resort to places like this with property which they steal from their masters, and which the men exchange, at most nefarious profit to the Jew receiver, for whisky and tobacco, and which the females barter for ribbons and tawdry finery. Wherever there is a large plantation, these German traders—if it be not a desecration of the name of trade to apply it to their business—squat in the neighbourhood, build up a wooden shanty, and open a store. If a saddle, or a coat, or a watch, be lost, the planter may be tolerably certain that it has been bartered by his negroes at such a place as this for whisky or tobacco. The business is so profitable that, although the delinquent may be sometimes detected and imprisoned, he soon contrives to make money enough to remove with his ill-gotten gains to the Far West, where his antecedents are unknown and never inquired after, and where, perhaps under a new name, he figures as a great merchant in the more legitimate business of a dry-goods store."

A drive of five miles through the forest, in the course of which we had to cross a swamp two feet deep with water, brought us to Pimlico and its mansion, pleasantly embowered among trees of greater beauty and variety than we had passed on our way. Among these the live or evergreen oak, the cypress, the cedar, and the magnolia, were the most conspicuous. The mansion, like most of the houses in the south, where trees are abundant and stone is scarce, was built of wood, and gave but little exterior promise of the comfort and elegance to be found within. Here we fared sumptuously, having our choice of drinks, from London porter and Allsopp's India ale, to Hock and Claret, and Catawba and Isabella, of Longworth's choicest growth; and of food of every variety, fish with names unknown in Europe, but of most excellent quality, and game in an abundance with which Europe can scarcely claim equality. The greatest novelty was the small turtle called the "cooter," similar to but smaller than the "terrapin," so well known and esteemed in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Washington. The "cooter" is, it appears, a perquisite of the slaves. They will not themselves eat it, looking upon its flesh with loathing and aversion, but in their leisure moments they seek it in the water-courses and trenches, or borders of the streams, and sell it to their masters. Among other privileges which they are allowed may be here mentioned that of keeping poultry on their own account, the profits of which enable them to buy tobacco and other luxuries for themselves and finery for their wives.

In the morning we sallied over the plantation, under the guidance of the General, and saw the whole art and mystery of rice cultivation. At high water the river which commands his estate is five feet above the level of the rice-ground; so that by means of sluices it is easy to flood the plantation, or any part of it, and just as easy to let off the water as soon as the growing crop has received a sufficient steeping. The rice is submitted to three several floodings before it is fit to be removed. The first, in the early spring, is called "the sprout flow;" the second or intermediate, when the green stalks have acquired a certain strength and height, is called "the long flow;" and the last, "the harvest flow." Between each "flow" the slaves, male and female, are employed in gangs, under the superintendence of the overseer (or "boss," as the negroes always call a master of any kind), in hoeing among the roots. In this occupation we found about a hundred and fifty of them in different parts of the estate. They were not asked to rest from their labour on our arrival. They were coarsely but comfortably clad, and wore that cheerful, good-humoured, happy expression of countenance which seems to be the equivalent and the compensation granted them by paternal Providence for their loss of freedom. Measured by mere physical enjoyment and absence of care or thought of the morrow, the slave is, doubtless, as a general rule, far happier than his master. His wants are few, he is easily satisfied, and his toil is not excessive.

Rambling along the raised dykes and sluices, the strangers of the party were surprised to see the immense flocks of birds which suddenly rose from the ground or from the low bushes that fringed the stream, and which sometimes settled upon a tree in countless thousands till the branches seemed to bend beneath the weight. They were declared to be blackbirds; but a boy of about twelve years of age, the adopted son of the General, who had been out all the morning with his gun making havoc among them, having brought one for our inspection, it was found to be very different from the blackbird of Europe. It wanted the golden bill and the glowing plumage, and had instead of them a white bill and a breast speckled like that of the English thrush. It was too early in the season for the alligators to make their appearance; but they swarm in the river in the months of June and July, and commit sad depredation, not only among the fish, but among the ducks and geese or wild-fowl that frequent the stream. Alligators are said to be quite equal to the Chinese in their partiality for dogs and cats when they can get hold of them. But cats are proverbial for their dislike of water, and dogs are too knowing and clever to treat themselves to the luxury of a bath in any stream where the alligator is found, so that poor Alligator seldom enjoys the dainty that he most loves. But the bark of a dog excites him as much as the sight of a live turtle does a London alderman; and you have but to bring a dog to the brink of a river and make him bark, when the alligators, unless they suspect mischief, will pop

their long noses out of the water, and yearn for the delicacy which hard Fate has denied them.

From the rice-grounds our party proceeded to the negro village where the slaves resided. Most of the occupiers were at work in the fields; but we entered some of the tenements, and found nothing to object to on the score of comfort. To each hut was attached a plot of ground for a garden; but none of the gardens were cultivated or gave the slightest promise of a flower. In one there was a luxuriant peach-tree in full bloom—a perfect blaze of crimson beauty—but as a general rule the negro either has no love of gardens or no time to attend to their cultivation. From all I could gather here and elsewhere, and as the result of my own observation, the former and not the latter reason explains the neglect of this beautiful and innocent means of enjoyment which both climate and circumstances place within the reach of the black population.

In the village there were an hospital, an infirmary for the sick, a chapel, where twice every Sunday Divine service was performed by a missionary allowed to have access to the slaves upon condition of not preaching freedom to them; and a nursery, where the young children, from the earliest age upwards to fourteen, were taken care of during the absence of their parents in the fields. The elder boys and girls were made useful in nursing the infants; and the whole swarm, to the number of nearly seventy, were drawn up by the side of the road, and favoured us with several specimens of their vocal powers. The General declared them to be "hominous-eaters" and not workers; and they certainly looked as if hominy agreed with them, for a plumper and more joyous set of children it would have been difficult to assemble together in any country under the sun. Their songs were somewhat more hearty than musical. The entertainment was concluded by the Methodist hymn, "And that will be joyful, joyful," which the vociferous singers contrived unconsciously to turn into a comic song. But this feat, I may as well mention, is not peculiar to little negroes, for some obstreperous free Americans on board of our outward-bound steamer favoured their fellow-passengers with a similar exhibition, and even managed to make a comic song of the "Old Hundredth."

We were next introduced to "Uncle Tom"—such was the name by which he had been known long before the publication of Mrs. Stowe's novel—a venerable negro who had been fifty years upon the plantation. His exact age was not known, but he was a strong hearty man when brought from the coast of Africa in the year 1808. "Tom" had been sold by some petty African king or chief at the small price of an ounce of tobacco, and had been brought over with upwards of two hundred similar unfortunates by an American slaver. He was still hale and vigorous, and had within a few years married a young wife, belonging to a neighbouring planter. He was told by the General that I had come to take him back to Africa;—an announcement which seemed to startle and distress him, for he suddenly fell on his knees before me, clasped his hands, and implored me in very imperfect and broken English to let him stay where he was. Every one that he had known in Africa must have long since died; the ways of his own country would be strange to him, and perhaps his own countrymen would put him to death, or sell him again into slavery to some new master. He was much relieved to find that my intentions were neither so large nor so benevolent;—though malevolent would perhaps be a better word to express the idea which impressed itself upon his mind in reference to my object in visiting him. The old man was presented with a cigar by one of our party, and with a glass of whisky by the General's orders, and he courteously drank the health of every one present, both collectively and individually. Drinking to a lady, he expressed the gallant wish that she might grow more beautiful as she grew older; and to the donor of the cigar he uttered his hope that at the Last Day "Gor Amighty might hide him in some place where the Devil not know where to find him."

On this plantation I have no doubt from what I saw that the slaves are kindly treated, and that the patriarchal relation in all its best aspects exists between the master and his poor dependents. But I do not wish to depict this one as a sample of all, but confine myself to a simple narrative of what I saw. Slavery has many aspects, and upon some future occasion I may be enabled to lay before your readers some other facts, less patent, which may throw light upon its operation not only upon the fortunes and character of the white men who hold them in bondage, but upon the future destinies of the United States of America.

C. M.

## LITERATURE.

ESSAYS ON INDIAN ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC, NUMISMATIC, AND PALEOGRAPHIC. By the late JAMES PRINSEP, F.R.S. Edited by EDWARD THOMAS. Two volumes. John Murray.

The earlier history of India is extremely obscure, and science has proved the fabulous character of its ancient chronology. There is a complete absence of dates and chronicles. The names of antique dynasties are doubtful or unknown. Its philosophical and religious systems, however, are clearly defined. The sacred hymns probably preceded the heroic poems; and it is the accredited opinion that the Vedic period, described as an antique rustic porch leading to the fine old temple of Brahminical grandeur, commenced about B.C. 1400, while general literature is not traced higher than B.C. 700, when appeared the philosophic Sutra and the Laws of Menu. Europe is indebted to the Greek writers for much fragmentary knowledge of ancient India, but it wants fulness and precision, and it is to modern times that we must look for solid instruction. Sir William Jones is recognised as the illustrious pioneer of Oriental studies; and, as Mrs. Spiers remarks, "it was a happy day for Indian history" when he discovered that the Sandracottus of the Greeks was the Chandragupta of the Hindoos, as it settled a most important point in chronology, and destroyed the traditional claims of Vishnu and Siva to a remote antiquity. In 1787 Sir William Jones founded the Asiatic Society at Calcutta, and then active researches were made not only into the Sanscrit language and writings, but also into the meaning of inscriptions on coins, columns, and rocks. In the twenty-fourth chapter of the Book of Joshua, 26th and 27th verses, the practice of recording events on monoliths is clearly attested:—"And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak that was by the sanctuary of the Lord; and Joshua said unto all the people, 'Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us, for it hath heard all the words of the Lord which he spake unto us; it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God.'" The deciphering of the cuneiform inscriptions on rocks and cylinders by Sir Henry Rawlinson is another illustration of the old Eastern method of preserving the memory of the past; and the practice was also proved by Dr. Mill, who succeeded in reading some obsolete characters on a pillar at Allahabad.

James Prinsep became Secretary to the Asiatic Society of Calcutta, and devoted himself to the study of Indian antiquities. He was enthusiastic in his pursuit of knowledge, and inspired his friends with his own ardour. In his early researches he laboured under the disadvantage of not being proficient in Sanscrit literature, but received valuable aid from the learned pundits and the Rev. Dr. Mill. He soon rivalled his teachers in aptitude, and from various parts of India he obtained copies of monoliths, rocks, and buildings, as well as copper plates, containing ancient grants of land. Mr. Thomas, in a biographical sketch of Prinsep's career prefixed to the volumes now before us, gives the following account of the success with which he prosecuted his researches into archaeology:—

The inscriptions on the pillars at Delhi and at Allahabad, which had been copied in facsimile, and published in the volumes of the Asiatic Society's proceedings in the time of Sir William Jones, and the deciphering of which had baffled that accomplished scholar, and his successors, Colebrooke and Wilson, yielded at last to our author's ingenuity and perseverance. He discovered that the two inscriptions were identical, and had their counterparts on rocks at Girnar, in Gujerat, on the western side of India, and at Dhaul, in Katak, on the eastern side; the character of all being similar to that of inscriptions occurring among the old Buddhist temples, monasteries, and topes of Sanchi and at Bilhisa, in South Bundelcund, which afforded the key for deciphering most of the letters. This oft-repeated inscription was found, when completely read and translated, to contain edicts of the great King Pidsi, another name for Asoka, who lived in the third century before our era, and was the contemporary of the early Seleucidae, Kings of Syria. The name of Antiochus, with those of Ptolemy, Magas, and Antigonus, was found recorded or referred to in the body of the inscription at Girnar; and the reading of these was confirmed ten years after by the detection of the same names, with the addition of that of a fifth monarch,

(Continued on page 620.)



**BIRMINGHAM TRIENNIAL MUSICAL FESTIVAL.** In aid of the Funds of the General Hospital, on the 31st AUGUST, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of SEPTEMBER next. President—The Right Hon. the Earl of DARTMOUTH.

**STEAM TO MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY.** Booking Passengers through to NEW ZEALAND. The splendid and powerful Royal Mail Steam-ship PRINCE ALBERT, Thomas Jarvis, Commander, 2000 tons burden, 400 horsepower, will be despatched positively on the 15th AUGUST. This splendid steamer is an engagement to her Majesty's Government, having been specially selected for the mail service between the Australian Colonies and New Zealand. She has spacious and elegant accommodation for First and Second Class Passengers, and will call at Melbourne, where passengers can embark, and will carry only a limited quantity of cargo. Loading in the London Dock. For freight, passage, and for further particulars, apply to Messrs. Z. C. Pearson, Coleman, and Co., 34, Great St. Helen's, London; 95, High-street, Hull; and Royal Dock, Grimsby; or Baka, Adam, and Co., 8, Philip-lane, &c., London.

**LOANS ON DEBENTURES.**—The Directors of the Dublin and Wicklow Railway Company are ready to receive tenders of Loans on Mortgage, or Debenture Bonds, bearing interest at 5 per cent per annum, payable half-yearly in Dublin or London. The Loans to be mortgaged must not exceed £100,000, and for such periods not less than three nor more than five years, as may be agreed upon to suit the lender. Proposals, stating amounts tendered, and periods for which offered, to be addressed to the Secretary of the Company, at their office, No. 48, West-end-row, Dublin. **ARTHUR MOORE, Secretary.**

**THE LEVIATHAN GOLD NUGGET.** weighing 1745 oz 18 dwts. pure gold. The proprietor of the celebrated "Black Diamond" being about to dissolve partnership, are open to an offer for the purchase of this wonderful specimen. Apply to Messrs. Thomas Edgway and Co., 1, Brompton-lane, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

**NATIONAL ORPHAN HOME, Ham-** common, for affording a Home to Destitute Orphan Children of all ages, classes, and denominations, from all parts of the kingdom. Founded, 1849.

**THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL** will take place at the "STAR and GAITHER," Richmond-hill, on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1858. The Right Hon. the Earl of CARLISLE, K.G., in the Chair. Noblemen and gentlemen desirous of becoming stewards are requested to communicate with the Secretary, Mr. W. Newman, Esq., 9, Inner Temple-lane, London, E.C.

**FUNDS** are greatly REQUIRED for the SUPPORT of the HOSPITAL for CONSUMPTION, Brompton, 80 Beds being empty for want of means. **PHILIP ROSE, Hon. Sec.**

**PARENTS AND GUARDIANS** having Sons or Wards to place out as PUPILS and APPRENTICES in every respectable established Profession, Mercantile, Wholesale, and Retail Manufacturing Trades, and Mechanical Pursuits, Farming &c., that can be named, will find the requirements supplied upon an inspection of Mr. REARDEN'S 18th Annual List of many hundred VACANCIES, in the different Departments and throughout the United Kingdom, and at most moderate premiums, to meet the means of each applicant. Full particulars given free of charge, upon application with the Youth, at Mr. Rearden's Auction and Estates Office, 91, Piccadilly.

**TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.**—A Young ARCHITECT and BUILDER, residing in the suburbs of a provincial town (within forty miles of London), is desirous of taking a few PUPILS into his Office, to instruct in Practical Architecture and Architectural Drawing. For other particulars, address A. B. C., 14, Easton-road, N. W.

**PARTNERSHIP.**—A PARTNER REQUIRED in a well-known house of business, of 25 years' standing, in the best position in the city of London, with a numerous and profitable trade. The trade is of the highest respectability, returns large, and profits good. £1000 to £5000 required. Apply to Messrs. Courtney and Croome, Solicitors, 16, Crooked-lane, London-bridge.

**TO INVALIDS.**—A Medical Man, residing in one of the most healthy and picturesque localities in South Wales, is desirous of obtaining a RESIDENT PATIENT, who would have all the comforts of a home. A lady or gentleman and daughter could be accommodated at a moderate price. Address, M.D., care of Mr. Thomas, 300, Holborn, London.

**COMFORTABLE BOARD AND LODGING** in FRANCE with an English family. Apply by letter, prepaid, to Mr. R. Williams, Freshwater, St. Omer, Leasay Manche, France.

**SEA-BATHING, ST. BEES.**—An excellent House, well furnished and beautifully situated on Vale View, St. Bees. Terms reasonable; can be entered upon immediately. Apply to Mrs. Kirkhaugh, St. Bees.

**SELECT PLANTS,** post-free at the annexed prices:—12 superb varieties Fuchsias, 4s.; 12 fine varieties Verbenas, 3s.; 12 fine varieties Pelargoniums, 3s.; 12 superb varieties Pinks, 4s.—From WILLIAM KNIGHT, Florist, 67, High-street, Battle, Sussex.

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in., 1604 in., 1605 in., 1606 in., 1607 in., 1608 in.,



(Continued from page 618.)

in another copy of these edicts, expressed in a different character on a rock at Kapurdigiri, in Afghanistan, when that inscription was deciphered by Mr. Norris. These inscriptions afforded the first verified connection of the history and archaeology of India with contemporary events and sovereigns of the Western World.

Mr. Prinsep published his *Essays from time to time in the "Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal,"* copies of which have become very rare, and Mr. Thomas determined on their re-issue. His first design proposed merely to reprint the Numismatic Essays, but he afterwards resolved to incorporate with them the memoirs on archaeological and palæontological subjects. Mr. Thomas has enriched these volumes with supplementary notes, and, not confining himself to the editorial duty of correcting the press, appears as a commentator and critic on his author's text. The first volume is almost entirely of a numismatic character, profusely illustrated with engravings of coins. The contents of the second are more varied. It gives an account of the ancient Sanscrit numerals, of the discovery of the ancient Bactrian alphabet, and a review of that alphabet; a type table of the Semitic alphabets, and a series of tables illustrative of the coins, weights, and measures of British India, with chronological tables and genealogical lists having reference to India and other kingdoms of Asia, which are extremely useful to the student and most convenient for refreshing the memory.

Pausanias states that at an early period there were no coins of native mintage current among the Hindoos; and Mr. Prinsep considers that view correct, as no remains have been found of ancient Indian coinage. At the present day he remarks that, "immediately to the east of us, Ava and China are nearly destitute of fabricated money of their own; into the former of which our silver and copper currency is but now by degrees beginning to penetrate; while the latter, along the coast, is supplied with dollars from America." Bactrian and Indo-Scythic coins have been plentifully found in India, and from those the Indo-Grecian coins were generated. A very interesting account is given of the numismatic discoveries made by General Ventura in the tope or mound of Manikyala, from which fine specimens of Sassanian coins were disinterred. These are proved to have been struck in the reign of Sapor, born in A.D. 310, and who reigned till A.D. 380, and they show the antiquity of the tope. This Monarch was renowned for his victories over several Roman Emperors, and over the Tartar and Arab invaders of his dominions. In the coins and effigies of this Monarch appear the winged headdress. Manikyala, now a small village situated on the route leading from Attock to Lahore, was built on the ruins of a very ancient town of unknown origin, which is presumed to have been the capital of all the country between the Indus and the Hydaspes. The tope of Manikyala is described by M. Court as "a vast massive cupola of great antiquity. It is visible at a great distance, having a height of 80 feet with 310 or 320 of circumference. It is solidly built of quarried stone, with lime cement. The outer layer is of sandstone." This tope proved to be a treasury of coins to Mr. Prinsep.

Roman coins are also abundantly discovered. Whether commercial intercourse existed between ancient Italy and India before the Roman conquest of Egypt is doubted by many inquirers, but, after that fine country had been subjected, a regular trade in Indian products from the Malabar coast was established. So early as the reign of Tiberius the gold and silver coin of the empire was drained away, and it was the East that absorbed the precious metals. "The objects," says Gibbon, "of Oriental traffic were splendid and

trifling; silk—a pound of which was esteemed worth a pound of gold—precious stones, and a variety of aromatics were the chief articles. The labour and risks of the voyage were rewarded with almost incredible profit, but it was made on Roman subjects, and at the expense of the public. As the nations of Arabia and India were contented with the produce and manufactures of their own country, silver on the side of the Romans was the principal, if not the only, article of commerce. It was a complaint worthy of the gravity of the Senate that in the pursuit of female ornaments the wealth of the State was irrecoverably given away to foreign and hostile nations." Pliny calculates the drain at about two millions annually of our money. In 1842 five hundred Roman coins were found in different parts of the Madras Presidency, in the Coimbatore district, and even on the heights of the Neilgherries. In 1851 a large deposit of Roman gold coins was excavated from a hill near Kottayens, a village about ten miles from Cannanore. Colonel Sykes states five coolie-loads had been dug out, most of which got into the hands of the jewellers, but some of the coins were secured for the Museum of the India House. They are of pure gold, and bear the effigies of the Roman Emperors, from Augustus down to Antoninus Pius.

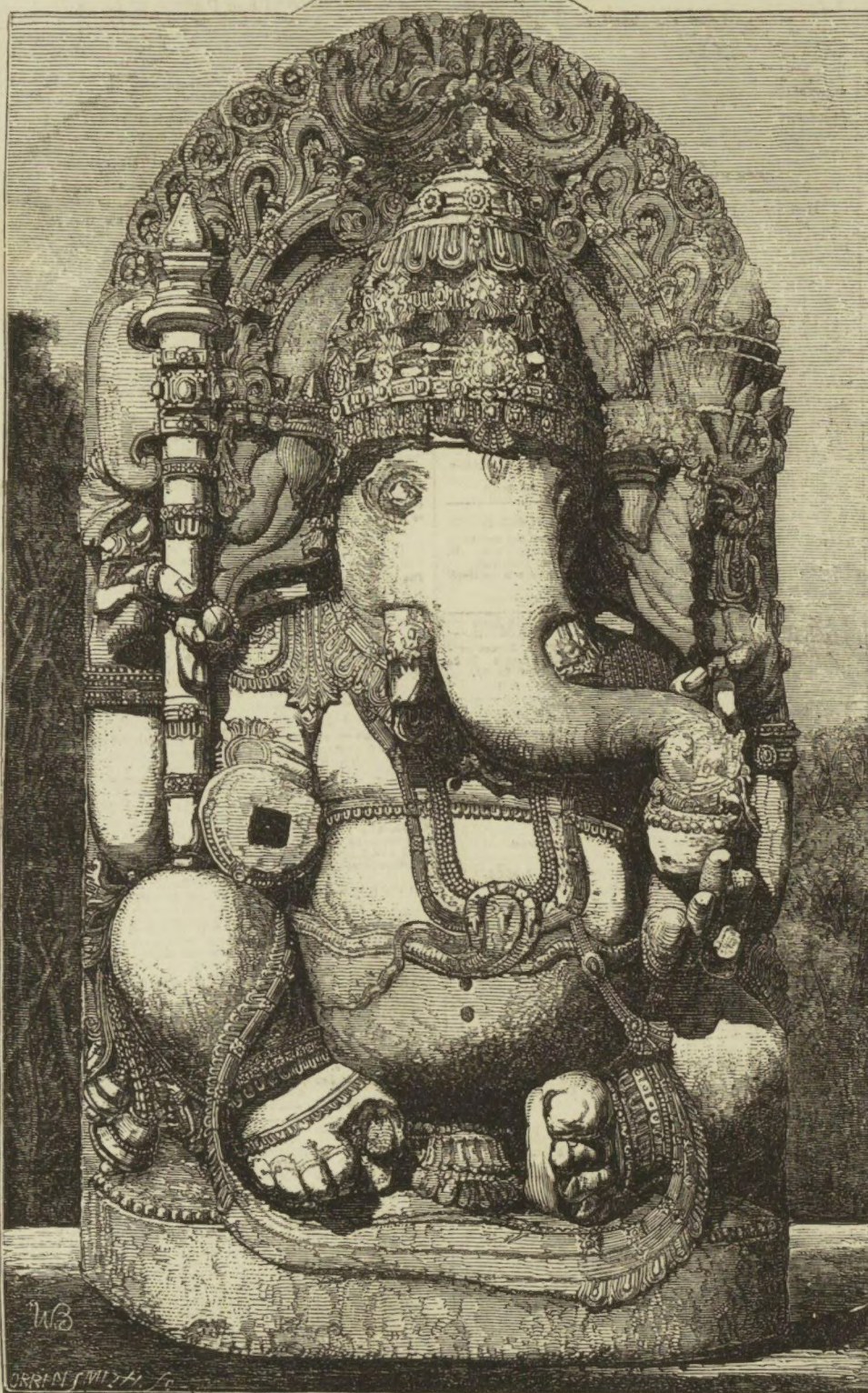
Mr. James Prinsep was born in 1799, and died in 1840. His incessant study shortened his life; but he will ever be remembered as one of the ablest of Oriental scholars, of which the volumes before us afford the most honourable evidence.

#### HINDOO IDOLS.

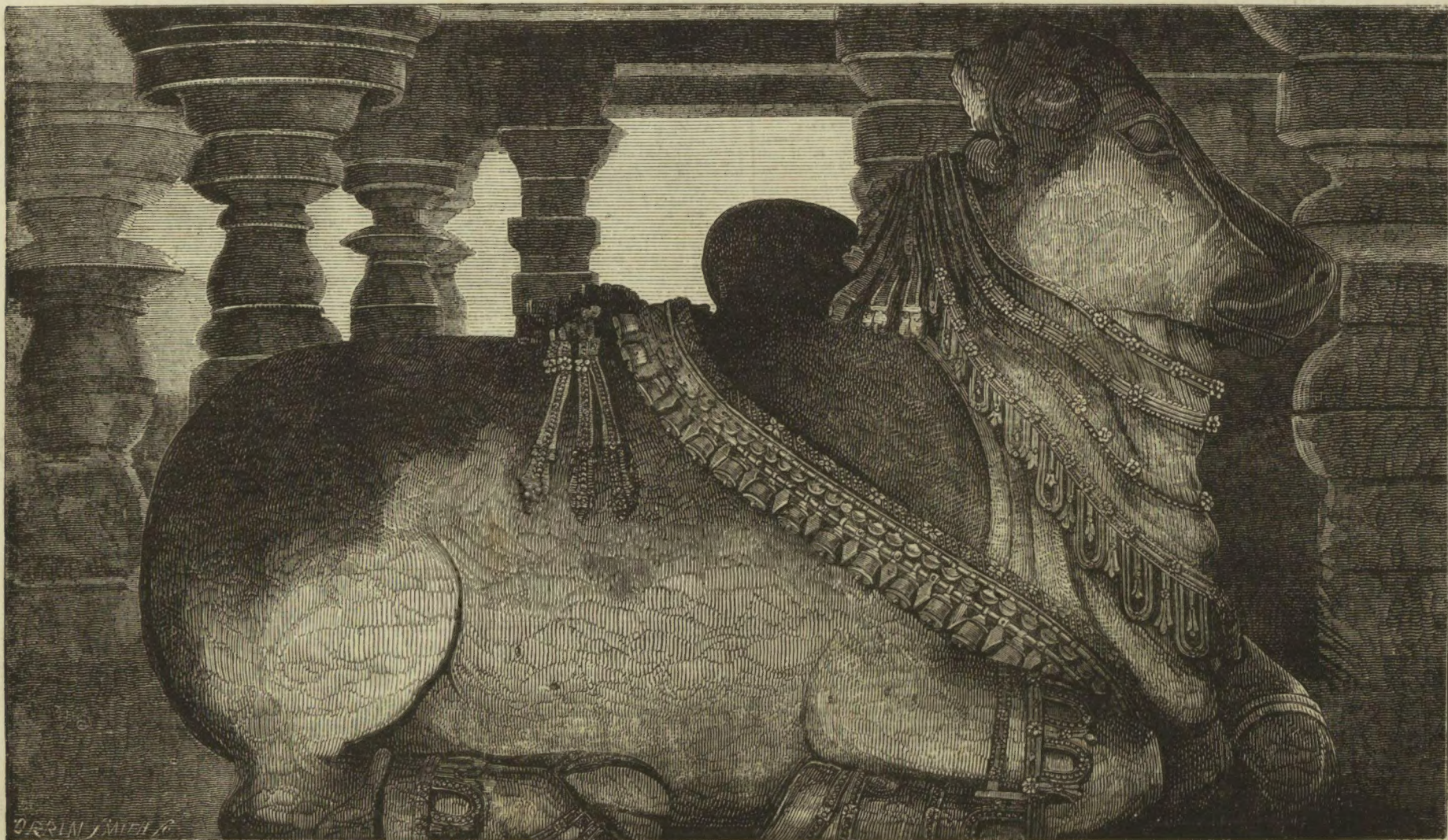
THESE ENGRAVINGS are from a series of photographs which were taken by Mr. R. B. Oakley, at the Temple of Hallibeed, in the north-west of Mysore, in the beginning of last year, which are now being published by Mr. M'Lean, of the Haymarket. The first represents Ganesa, one of the most important of the Hindoo deities. Ganesa is supposed to be the Janus of heathen Rome; he was the God of Wisdom; all sacrifices, religious ceremonies, and prayers even to the other gods are commenced with an invocation to him. He obtained this privilege with his elephant's head; or rather, it was granted as a palliative to his mother's feelings, as will be seen by the following legend, which Major Moore, in his valuable work on Hindoo Mythology, relates:—

"Ganesa was the eldest son of Siva and Parvati. Vishnu, one of the three superior gods, quarrelled with Ganesa, which resulted in a fight, when Siva interfered and cut off his son Ganesa's head. His mother, Parvati, was greatly grieved at the loss of her intelligent child, and her grief was manifested in such extraordinary austerities as threatened to derange the destinies of the universe, nothing would appease her but the restoration of her son, which Siva, at the earnest request of the assembled deities, promised to effect; but the severed head could not be found, and it was determined to fix on his trunk the head of the first animal which presented itself: it happened to be an elephant with but one tooth. Siva adopted Ganesa, and all the deities, to appease and console Parvati, consented that on all occasions he should be first invoked."

The original whence our second Engraving—Nandi, the sacred bull, the vahan or vehicle of Siva—is taken, is a vast monolith, and measures about twenty feet from the nose to the tail, and about eleven feet from the hump to the pedestal. It is supposed to be the divine form of Justice, and the gods consider him who violates justice as a vrishala, or one who slays a bull; hence, no Hindoo to the present day will kill one of these animals. Being in a deep shade it was very difficult to obtain a good photograph of it; there is another but smaller sculptured bull in a similar temple a few yards from this.



GANESA, A HINDOO IDOL.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.



NANDI, THE SACRED BULL OF SIVA.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.